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Hafa Adai!

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# Saipan Tribune

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

www.saipantribune.com WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19, 2022

## SAN NICOLAS VS PROPST

# Spat halts House session

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» San Nicolas: Propst 'already too much' but offers nothing
» Propst: Lies will be heard at SOCA

A House of Representatives session yesterday morning was abruptly halted and resumed later in the afternoon after Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas (R-Tinian) and Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan) figured in an argument stemming from Propst's critical stance against Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

San Nicolas said that Propst, among other things, "is already too much" in criticizing Torres, yet offers no plans to develop the Commonwealth.

As their argument was escalating, House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) announced he would end the discussion and called for a quick recess. Both San Nicolas and Propst continued to argue during the recess but were notably quiet when the session resumed at 1pm.

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## AT GUBERNATORIAL TOWN HALL FORUM

# Sablan, Staffler receptive to educational financial aid for immigrants

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) and her running mate, Rep. Leila F. Staffler (D-Saipan), are both receptive to the idea of giving immigrants who don't have U.S. citizenship or a green card the chance to receive financial

See SABLAN on Page 4

**GUBERNATORIAL FORUM**
Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios stresses a point in answering one of the questions as his running mate, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, waits for his turn during the Gubernatorial Town Hall Forum at the American Memorial Park Theater Tuesday night. The Northern Marianas College, in collaboration with the Associated Students of NMC, is hosting the three-day forum. Also in the photo, from left to right on the table, are moderators NMC School of Education associate professor Dr. Beylul Solomon and NMC Language and Humanities assistant professor Adam Walsh, ASNMC secretary Daryll De Luna, and ASNMC treasurer Jenara Bai. Palacios and Apatang are running for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, under a unified independent team, in the Nov. 8 general elections.
FERDIE DELA TORRE

# Court rejects appeal to give American Samoans citizenship

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The U.S Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.

By MARK SHERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)— The Supreme Court on Monday rejected an appeal seeking to give people born in American Samoa U.S. citizenship.

In leaving in place an appeals court decision, the

See COURT on Page 4

# MVA seeks additional $5M for TRIP Japan

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority has requested an additional $5 million from the CNMI administration for TRIP Japan to fund plans to extend the CNMI's reach to other destinations within Japan.

According to MVA chair Viola Alepuyo, MVA recently requested an additional $5 million in American Res-

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# Local

## Torres to deliver State of the Commonwealth on Friday

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is set to deliver the 2022 State of the Commonwealth Address on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, at 10am at Kensington Hall, Kensington Hotel Saipan.

In a statement yesterday, Torres said: "My administration is excited to share with the community the state of our Commonwealth and the journey we have taken over the unprecedented events of the last few years. I will be talking about our work together as a community and what we should do for our future if we continue this journey together. We got some big choices ahead as a Commonwealth, but I truly believe that if we make those right choices, our future will be bright. I really look forward to updating our community, both on island and online."

Additionally, the CNMI Office of the Governor issued this clarifying statement:

"In line with respecting the authority of the presiding officers of the Legislative and Judicial Branches of the CNMI government, formal invitation letters have been sent out to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court to invite them, as well as the respective members of their chambers. This has been standard protocol in formal communications between the branches of government.

"Reserved seats have been designated for all members of the Legislature and all justices and judges of the Judiciary. This is inclusive of all other elected officials, as is always the case for a State of the Commonwealth Address.

"Invitations have also been sent out to the Cabinet, autonomous agency boards and executives, private sector partners, and community stakeholders. This administration believes in inclusion, and that will be in true display this Friday as the governor speaks about our community coming together under the principles of *inafa'maolek, tipiyeew,* and *respetu*."

The State of the Commonwealth Address is open to the public in-person at Kensington Hall in San Roque and will be livestreamed on the CNMI Office of the Governor Facebook page in partnership with Northern Marianas College on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, at 10am ChST. ***(PR)***

## Sablan questions SOCA at Kensington

**By FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) questioned yesterday Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres "so-called" State of the Commonwealth Address to be delivered Friday, saying there was no joint session by the House of Representatives and Senate, and that the venue is at one of the most expensive hotels in the CNMI.

"It looks and feels and sounds and smells like another Torres' campaign event at taxpayers' expense," said Sablan during a House session.

Sablan

The lawmaker said the governor is inviting House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) to attend the event.

She noted that the last time Torres delivered an actual SOCA was four years ago and that was also right before the general election.

At that time and in all previous times for SOCA, the governor's address was delivered before an official joint session of the Legislature that was called by the presiding officers of the House and the Senate, she said.

In the previous SOCA, Sablan said, there was actual coordination between the Executive Branch and Legislative Branch to plan the event and it was at a public venue that was accessible and open to the public, like the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

"None of that is taking place this week. There is no joint session, there is no coordination between the branches. It's going to be at one of the most expensive hotels on the island and clearly not everybody is invited," Sablan said.

Torres announced yesterday that the SOCA will be at the Kensington Saipan Hotel's Kensington Hall in San Roque this Friday at 10am. He also clarified that Speaker Villagomez, House President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and all lawmakers have been invited to attend.

Photos were also circulated on social media yesterday showing the seats at Kensington Hall that are designated for all lawmakers, including Sablan.

Sablan said previous governors were mature enough to be able to stand in front of all legislators, even those who criticized them, to report on SOCA and present their plans and visions for the future.

"Because…they were adults and that's how democracy works. We're never going to agree on everything but we can and we should be able to gather cordially in a room to discuss our issues and figure out how we can work together to solve our problems," she said.

Sablan said she does not think that they can call whatever is happening on Friday an official SOCA in light of all the circumstances, and with just two weeks to go before early voting starts.

Sablan is the Democratic Party's bet for governor in the Nov. 8 general election.

## Thursday is Int'l Great ShakeOut Day

The International Great ShakeOut for the CNMI will begin this Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022, at 10:20am. Agencies, businesses, schools, and other groups from across the world will take part in the world's largest earthquake exercise, which will consist of practicing the correct steps to take in the event of a high-magnitude earthquake.

In keeping with our agency's mission of promoting emergency preparedness, this serves as a reminder for the impending International Great Shakeout Day. We used to hold the earthquake drill at the Emergency Operations Center, but for this year's exercise, we'd like to request that you conduct your own earthquake drill within your separate offices. On shakeout.org, our organization has already registered for this activity, and "Certificates of Participation" can be generated for your team members if asked.

You won't need any fancy tools or equipment, and the Earthquake Drill itself will only last for about 60 seconds. Please visit: https://www.shakeout.org/cnmi/ for more information. ***(PR)***


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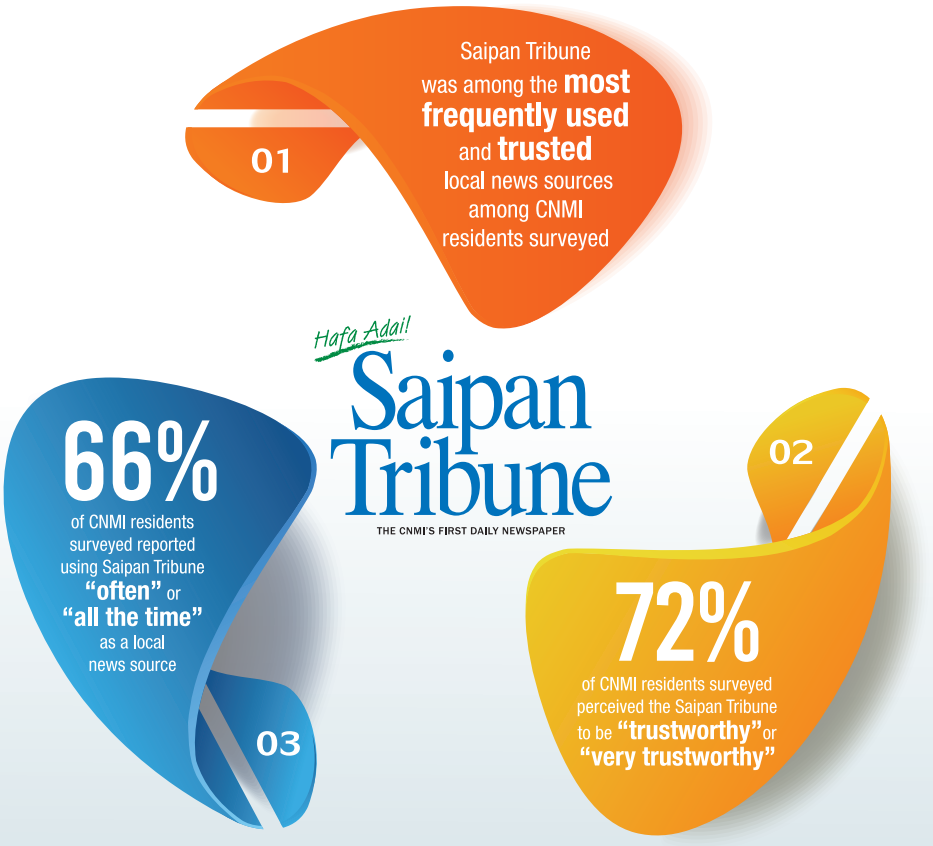
01
Saipan Tribune was among the most frequently used and trusted local news sources among CNMI residents surveyed
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66%
of CNMI residents surveyed reported using Saipan Tribune "often" or "all the time" as a local news source
02
72%
of CNMI residents surveyed perceived the Saipan Tribune to be "trustworthy" or "very trustworthy"
03

NEWS USE AND PERCEPTIONS
Use and Perceived Trustworthiness of Media as Sources of Local News*

*Source:
**i Minagåhet – Ellet: Reporting the Truth in the Northern Mariana Islands by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council**
A study regarding news media use and perceptions, news media literacy, civic engagement, and community values in the Northern Mariana Islands

*https://www.nmhcouncil.org/mediasurvey2022/*

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# ANAKS group appeals judge's decision in AK relocation plan

The residents of the ANAKS Ocean View Hill Saipan have clarified that they do not object to Atkins Kroll Saipan Inc. opening a car dealership at the proposed location in Puerto Rico.

Rather, their opposition stems from the AK being allowed to relocate its painting and automotive repair shop to the same location, saying the location sits on top of a water aquifer, which is the source of drinking water for the ANAKS residents.

In a statement issued Monday by the ANAKS Ocean View Hill Saipan Homeowner's Association, Ltd., it said the fact that hazardous chemicals and toxic substances will be used in connection with the proposed auto body, paint, and repair work, and the excessive noise generated by these activities at the proposed location is prompting their opposition to the proposal.

When sought for comments yesterday, Trina Cruz, who is the Marketing and Communications director for Atkins Kroll, issued the following statement: "Because we have served the CNMI for 55 years, we are committed to taking care of our environment. AK has taken all measures to ensure that environmental issues were considered, and we look forward to continuing our legacy of service and commitment to the community."

The homeowner's association said it issued the statement in response to recent reports concerning the association's motion for Superior Court judge *pro tem* David Wiseman to reconsider his decision denying the residents of ANAKS the opportunity to appeal the "Conditional Use Permit" granted to AK by the Commonwealth Zoning Board.

Larry Lee, who is president of the ANAKS board of directors, said the association's motion for reconsideration will be heard today, Wednesday, at 10am at the Guma Hustisia, in Wiseman's chamber.

In the statement it issued Monday, the association said the motion for reconsideration "is necessary to allow ANAKS' appeal to be heard on the merits—instead of being determined on a procedural issue created by the Zoning board's… actions. In an order dated Sept. 20, 2022, the Superior Court ruled that ANAKS had 30 days to appeal from the date that the Zoning board voted to allow AK to build a commercial vehicle repair facility that will use hazardous and toxic chemicals for auto body painting and other auto repair work. ANAKS filed its appeal within 30 days of the date from which the Zoning board actually issued the written permit. The Zoning board did not announce during the meeting, or at the time of the vote, that an appeal had to be filed within 30 days of the date of vote. The Zoning board then waited for more than 30 days to actually issue the written order granting the permit, thus creating the conflict and procedural basis for the Superior Court's decision to dismiss the appeal."

The association argues that Atkins Kroll should locate its paint booth and automotive repair shop in another location—away from homes and residents—possibly in nearby Lower Base Industrial Park—"just as another automotive dealer has done."

The association claims that negative health effects can result from exposure to excessive noise and the hazardous and toxic substances used in auto body and auto repair shops, including volatile organic compounds found in paints and solvents…as well as airborne particles released from sanding and grinding that contain silica and heavy metals." ***(Saipan Tribune)***

# NWS hosts 1st media and communications workshop in years

**By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The National Weather Service in Guam hosted its first Media and Communications workshop in years as a way to reconnect with local media partners and all those involved in disseminating crucial weather updates to the public.

The workshop, held at the Lao Lao Bay Beach Resort in Kagman, was attended by local news outlets, radio and TV stations, private agencies, and government agencies like the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Public Safety, and more.

According to Brandon Aydlett, NWS Guam science and operations officer, the workshop allowed NWS Guam to meet and familiarize themselves with local media partners and educate them on the ins and outs of NWS Guam to give participants a better understanding of weather-related announcements.

"This…is a way for the National Weather Service to really work with local media partners, all those involved in public communications here on Saipan, to learn more about our bulletins, our terminology, our jargon (which often causes confusion for the public) and how to explain this stuff to help people better learn and understand our documents and share that information to the public in a way they can better understand it," he explained.

Adylett said the main purpose of the workshop was to establish a good working relationship between NWS Guam and public communication related agencies in case NWS has any crucial weather information that needs to be disseminated to the public.

"The most important takeaway I'd like to leave with everyone is to reach out to us at NWS because my focus is to build relationships with media, government partners, Homeland Security, etc, because we can't just put out weather information and call it a day," Adylett said.


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**COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION**
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**
**CUC-IFB-23-002**

**Sewer Main and Manhole Replacement Project (Beach Road and Chalan Kanoa)**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Sewer Main and Manhole Replacement Project (Beach Road and Chalan Kanoa) in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the installation of gravity sewer main, new service laterals, connection to existing service laterals, and the installation of sewer manholes.

*The project is funded by a grant from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from ARPA.*

CUC requires the project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$200.00** for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **October 18, 2022 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST** be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-23-002, Sewer Main and Manhole Replacement Project (Beach Road and Chalan Kanoa)"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 09, 2022,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the Unites States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 21, 2022** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC's Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Larry Manacop, Acting Chief Engineer for Water/Wastewater via email at larry.manacop@cucgov.org, Joel Puyat, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email at joel.puyat@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie L. Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Senior Administrative Technician via email address at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**MANNY B. SABLAN**
PURCHASING ADMINISTRATOR



P0..O. BOX 10001 PMB 326
SAIPAN, MP 96950

**500 SAILS**

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**
**EDA GRANT NO. 07-79-07817**

**NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MARITIME TRAINING CENTER**
**500 SAILS-2022/RSQ-001**

500 Sails, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is soliciting bids from qualified vendors that are interested in providing professional services for the design and construction management for the Northern Mariana Islands Maritime Training Center (aka Cultural Maritime Training Center or CMTC).

The EDA funded project proposed is a renovation of a 30,900 sq ft warehouse that is in generally good condition and currently in use as a boatyard and teaching facility, and administrative offices. The renovation does not change the footprint of the warehouse. The renovation includes construction of a classrooms and offices area, roof repairs, replacement of warehouse doors and windows, the selection and installation of air conditioning and air circulation for the entire facility including air filtration and exhaust, selection and installation of an overhead crane, and the installation of multiple delivery points of compressed air, vacuum hookups, and electrical outlets within the boatyard/shop floor.

The Scope of Work is available beginning October 24, 2022 at 9:00am Chamorro Standard Time (ChST) at the 500 Sails Boatyard and Administrative office, located in Lower Base, Saipan. Requests may be sent via email to nmimtc@500Sails.org.

**A mandatory on-site pre-proposals conference will be held at the 500 Sails boatyard on November 3, 2022 at 4:00pm ChST.**

All questions or inquiries regarding this RSQ are due no later than 9:00pm, ***November 4, 2022 by email only***. Responses to questions or inquiries will be provided on November 11, 2022.

Sealed proposal for this project shall be submitted with one (1) original and four (4) copies to the 500 Sails Boatyard and Administrative Office, located at in Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 3:00pm, local time, ChST, November 14, 2022 and must be marked **"Proposal - Northern Marianas Maritime Training Center 500 Sails-2022-RSQ-001".**

Electronic submissions may be accepted if approved prior to the submission deadline.

Failure to follow the instructions regarding the submission of RSQ Responses may result in 500 Sails' choice to disqualify such bids.

Pete Perez
Executive Director

# Artman Corp. seeks sanctions against IPI

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Artman Corp. is now seeking sanctions against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC for the casino investor's failure to provide requested discovery in Artman's breach of contract lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Artman, through its lawyer, Colin Thompson, has filed a motion for sanctions against IPI for its failure to comply with Artman's previous discovery requests.

"Artman Corporation respectfully moves this court to compel and sanction Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC for its failure to respond to discovery requests. This motion is made pursuant to Rule 37 and relevant local rules," the motion states.

Thompson, in his memorandum in support of a motion for sanctions, said that IPI failed to provide responses within 30 days of being served the discovery requests and failed to attend the good-faith attempt made by Thompson to meet and discuss the incompliance.

"A party may move the court to order sanctions if a party, after being properly served with interrogatories under Rule 33 or a request for inspection under Rule 34, fails to serve its answers, objections, or written response. IPI was properly served by undersigned by delivering it to defendant's attorney office, San Nicolas Law Office, LLC. Defendant should have or did know that it was required to serve responses. Despite such notice, defendant failed to do so," he said.

Thompson argues the court should sanction IPI for its egregious conduct. Reasonable sanctions that Thompson suggested include costs and attorneys' fees incurred in filing a motion to compel, and monetary sanctions against the non-complying party and its counsel.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Artman Corp., is suing IPI in the U.S. District Court for the NMI for breach of contract, alleging that IPI owes it $106,890 for portable toilet services.

Artman, through Thompson, is asking the district court to issue an order awarding the plaintiff damages and ordering IPI to pay the amount owed for services rendered.

Aside from breach of contract, Thompson said his client is also alleging unjust enrichment, and statement of account.

Thompson said IPI agreed to compensate Artman for its services at specific rates per portable toilet.

According to their agreement, the plaintiff provided services at various locations of IPI as needed by the casino investor.

The price that IPI agreed to pay Artman varied based on duration of the rental, location and number of portable toilets, the lawsuit stated. IPI was even given a discounted price of $280 per unit for the Garapan casino construction site and $240 per unit for the remaining sites. However, in January 2020, IPI allegedly stopped paying its obligations regularly.

"Artman followed up to collect payments but received only promises from IPI that it would pay what it owed in the near future," the lawsuit said.

Artman said it received the last payment from IPI on Sept. 14, 2020.

## COURT

*From Page 1*

court also passed up an invitation to overturn a series of decisions dating back to 1901 known as the Insular Cases, replete with racist and anti-foreign rhetoric. Justice Neil Gorsuch had called for the cases to be overturned in April.

But the justices refused to take up an appeal from people born in American Samoa, and living in Utah, who argued that a federal law declaring that they are "nationals, but not citizens, of the United States at birth" is unconstitutional.

A trial judge in Utah ruled in their favor, but the federal appeals court in Denver said Congress, not courts, should decide the citizenship issue. The appeals court also noted that American Samoa's elected leaders opposed the lawsuit for fear that it might disrupt their cultural traditions.

"It's a punch in the gut for the Justices to leave in place a ruling that says I am not equal to other Americans simply because I was born in a U.S. territory," John Fitisemanu, the lead plaintiff, said in a statement. "I was born on U.S. soil, have a U.S. passport and pay my taxes like everyone else. But because of a discriminatory federal law, I am not recognized as a U.S. citizen."

American Samoa is the only unincorporated territory of the United States where the inhabitants are not American citizens at birth.

Instead, those born in the cluster of islands some 2,600 miles (4,184 kilometers) southwest of Hawaii are granted "U.S. national" status, meaning they can't vote for U.S. president, run for office outside American Samoa or apply for certain jobs. The only federal election they can cast a vote in is the race for American Samoa's nonvoting U.S. House seat.

Not taking up the case "helps preserve American Samoa's cultural priorities and right of self-determination," said Amata Coleman Radewagen, American Samoa's U.S. House delegate.

"Our people value American Samoa's right of self-determination, with great love for the United States as expressed in our people's high rate of service to the country," she said in a statement. "The issue of the Insular Cases can be addressed by Congress, based on self-determination by the people of each territory."

The Insular Cases, which arose following the Spanish-American War, dealt with the administration of overseas territories.

In their conclusion that residents of territories had some, but not all, rights under the Constitution, justices wrote in stark racial and xenophobic terms. Citizenship could not be automatically given to "those absolutely unfit to receive it," one justice wrote.

## SPAT

*From Page 1*

In response to Propst's lengthy criticism against Torres, San Nicolas said the House has always been critical of the governor since the beginning. Yet where was Propst during those times when people were in need during disasters and at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, asked San Nicolas.

"Criticism toward the governor is always customary here in the House. [But] instead of criticizing the governor, why don't you lay out a plan to develop the Commonwealth?" the Tinian lawmaker said. San Nicolas said that Propst has no plans for to offer to fix the economy of the Commonwealth.

Before San Nicolas spoke, Propst asked Villagomez and House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota) and members of the committee if they were invited to attend the signing of the budget bill into law. Propst said he heard that Torres did not invite them because they do not believe in the governor's leadership.

He said Villagomez was invited to the State of the Commonwealth Address this Friday, as Torres picks and chooses what he wants Villagomez to attend. Propst said this is strange and unprecedented.

He said they may not agree on issues, strongly disagree on policy and other things, but to ensure that certain factions or certain legislators are not invited is a slap in the face of democracy itself.

"This is unprecedented, extremely disappointing, and purely political," the lawmaker said.

Propst said it's not going to be a state of the Commonwealth address as it's won't give a true picture of the CNMI's cash flow projections or actual financial situation and what the future looks like.

"There will be no mention of the fact that there will be furloughs. Anybody in this Commonwealth who believes that somehow miraculously after ARPA funding dries up, without the help and aid from the feds, we're going to somehow miraculously be able to support every job, including 2,000 new hires, is fooling themselves," Propst said.

He said he is fine with not being invited because he does not know if he could sit through and stomach "the lies that all will hear."

In response, San Nicolas said Torres was doing things by himself since Super Typhoon Yutu and sacrificed his families and children by going on the front line during the pandemic. San Nicolas then spoke in Chamorro and stated, "Go ahead, go ahead!"

Villagomez said he is going to end the discussion and call a quick recess. After a few minutes, the speaker announced that the session would resume at 1pm.

## SABLAN

*From Page 1*

aid so they can enroll at the Northern Marianas College and earn a degree.

Sablan and Staffler are running for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, under the Democratic Party, in the Nov. 8 general election. They were the first to face the three-day Gubernatorial Town Hall Forum that kicked off Monday night at the American Memorial Park Theater. NMC hosted the event in collaboration with the Associated Students of NMC.

Sablan, in her answer to the first question as to their plans for giving immigrants the chance to receive financial aid to pursue studies at NMC, said she believes they all know someone who has lost immigration status through no fault of their own.

The first question was given to Sablan and Staffler prior to the forum.

Sablan said maybe there are people who came to the CNMI as children with their parents who are contract workers and that those parents have lost immigration status and these children grew up in the community and now want opportunities to seek higher education at NMC or the Northern Marianas Technical Institute.

Rep. Leila F. Staffler (D-Saipan) answers one of the questions as Rep. Christina "Tina" E. Sablan (D-Saipan) takes note during the Gubernatorial Town Hall Forum hosted by the Northern Marianas College, in collaboration with the Associated Students of NMC, at the American Memorial Park Theater Monday night. Sablan and Staffler are running for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, under the Democratic Party, in the Nov. 8 general elections. FERDIE DE LA TORRE

She said one of the first things that they should do is support the passage of H.R. 560, which would give stability and relief to so many foreign workers and their families who have been in this community for so long.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (D-MP) pending legislation, H.R. 560, seeks to grant permanent residency status in the Marianas to certain Commonwealth-Only Transitional Workers and to foreign investors admitted under Commonwealth immigration law.

**A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com**

## MVA

*From Page 1*

cue Plan Act funds from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres that would be used for the Japan TRIP program.

Alepuyo explained that the allocation would go toward enticing other Japanese destinations, aside from Narita, to visit the islands.

"We have made an additional $5 million request for Japan TRIP so we can explore bringing in other Japan destinations such as Osaka, Fukuoka, etc., to ensure continued direct [flights] from Saipan to various destinations in Japan," she said.

At the same time, Alepuyo said, MVA also asked the governor to allocate an additional $5 million for TRIP Korea. As of last week, the request has already been approved.

"An additional $5 million was approved for TRIP Korea. We have asked the MVA Korea office to come up with a proposal that they'll be presenting during our meeting on Thursday," Alepuyo said.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, the Office of the Governor initially allocated $15 million for TRIP Japan, which officially launched on Sept. 1.

MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo previously said that a portion of the $15 million would go toward the TRIP program's airline incentive, while the remaining funding would be used to promote and advertise the CNMI in Japan.

"The $15 million would be used for airline incentives and then we want to have some marketing programs. We want to also do a lot of cooperative promotions and advertisements with our travel trade partners. What we want to do is come up with different programs so that we can entice our Japanese tourists to also visit Tinian and Rota as well," she said.

As of Sept. 5, MVA has successfully been advertising the CNMI as a destination in Japan and has even established a partnership with the operators of the famous travel website Expedia to further promote the islands to Japanese travelers.

Meanwhile, MVA also managed to establish a partnership with Reiwa Travel DBA Newt, an online tourism promotional platform company.

Newt, in the form of an online app, will feature, promote, and market the CNMI as a destination. The company's local operator is TASI tours. Newt and TASI have real-time access to booking hotels and optional tours.

Both companies have signed up for the Y10,000 agency incentive program to help sell the CNMI as a destination.

The Y10,000 agency incentive means travel agents will get a Y10,000 incentive for all travels booked to Saipan.

Administrators from MANGO and Tinian SBDC assist small business owners during the BOOST Tinian Community Outreach.

The Honorable Governor Ralph Torres speaking to the attendees of this outreach.

# BOOST Fishers Farmers Ranchers PROGRAM

**Fishing, farming, and ranching is an important source of food and nutritional security throughout the Marianas. For many, it is a source of income.**

**Such practices have been passed on from generation to generation and is an important part of our culture and indigeneity. Fishing, farming and ranching creates important ties between families and individuals, as well as strengthening ties to our environment.**

**The BOOST Fisher, Farmer and Rancher program is designed to promote food and nutritional security, protect and promote traditional cultural practices, as well to diversify and revitalize the economy for those engaged in commercial activity.**

**Priority is extended to fishers, farmers and ranchers who produce for commercial gain. Applicants who fish, farm or ranch for sustenance and/or recreational purposes shall also be considered.**

**Terms and conditions apply.**

## FAQs:

## How Do You Qualify:

**Applicants must be able to provide evidence of any of the activities of the grant being requested. What types of evidence do I need to produce for any grant category?**

### FISHING

Provide evidence of fishing activities (video, photos, letters of reference, or other forms of testimonial).

Commercial fishers applying for BOOST funds must also provide a letter of intent, company profile, explanation of the use of funds, and a certificate of good standing.

### FARMING

Provide evidence of farming activities (video, photos, letters of reference, or other forms of testimonial).

Commercial farmers applying for BOOST funds must also provide a letter of intent, company profile, explanation of the use of funds, and a certificate of good standing.

### RANCHING

Provide evidence of ranching activities (video, photos, letters of reference, or other forms of testimonial).

Commercial ranchers applying for BOOST funds must also provide a letter of intent, company profile, explanation of the use of funds, and a certificate of good standing.

For inquiries simply logon to www.boostcnmi.com
Deadline extended to November 18.

# Hundreds take part in anti-domestic violence campaign

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Families are seen at one of the domestic violence outreach and awareness booths in the Garapan Central Park for the Day of Unity hosted by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and partners last Saturday for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

LEIGH GASES

Despite the rain last Saturday, hundreds turned up at the Garapan Central Park from 11am to 4pm for the Day of Unity and Men's Walk Against Domestic Violence, which was observed as part of the celebration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The event's purpose was to spread awareness about domestic violence and for the community to come together and learn about and avail of services provided for domestic violence victims and families. Throughout the event, the public was treated to cultural performances, activity booths, kids' games, and food vendors.

The outreach and education services included Karidat Social Services, Office of the Attorney General, Division of Youth Services-Child Protective Services, Office of Adult Probation, Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., Community Guidance Center- System of Care, CHCC Non-Communicable Disease Program, PSS Project Haligi Aware, Community Guidance Center-Suicide Prevention Program, Joeten Kiyu Public Library Bookmobile, Northern Marianas Technical Institute, Indigenous Affairs Office, and the Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services ambulance and fire truck display.

"We had a very good turnout, despite the rain. …So we're very pleased and very happy with the turnout. We weren't sure, but we knew that we still had to push through," said Maisie B. Tenorio, executive director of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence. "We hope that people who [came] will feel that spirit of unity and take it with them as they leave to their families and the community."

With the men's walk, the route was from the east of Gold's Gym and into the road leading into China Town. There were about 70 people who participated in the walk.

Tenorio said they tried to focus the walk "on the village as much as possible so that we bring awareness to where the people are. So, if there are survivors, or people who know victims and survivors living in the village, then they can hear our support. They know that there are people out there who are ready and willing to support them, to advocate for them, to amplify their voices, because many victims and survivors live in isolation, they live alone, or they feel alone. We're going to bring our voices to the village and hopefully they will hear us and know that they're not alone."

She then thanked the NMCADSV partners and other volunteers, "so it's a community effort. We have volunteers from Saipan Southern High School and from Kagman High School. We just want to say thank you to all of those who helped make it possible."

Savannah Delos Santos, the Sexual Assault Response team manager for the coalition, said the event had 18 activity and information booths. "I believe there were some booths that received over 200 people just attending their exhibition table, so that was such a great success. …Our incentive table is pretty much almost out of T-shirts. …And a lot of our exhibitors stayed pretty much the entire time, so that's really awesome."

Joshua Castro, who was the emcee for the event and who participated in the men's walk, said, "There was great entertainment to compliment the information and food booths. …I feel this year had a bigger turnout than others I've attended, which is a big deal considering the weather on Saturday. This is an important issue that usually gets ignored in the Marianas, but to see some community members getting together to fight a good fight, it was a blessing for many and big step toward ending domestic violence in the CNMI."

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

JOB DESCRIPTION

**POSITION:** FISCAL OFFICER
**PAY-LEVEL:** P.L. 28 / STEP 1-10 ($40,017 – $62,080)
**REPORTS TO:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION:**

This is an exempt professional position responsible for the management of office/program fiscal systems including but not limited to all accounts receivables and program expenditures. The Fiscal Officer is selected by and reports to the Executive Director and works under limited supervision within prescribed standards, policies and procedures.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- ✓ Bachelor's Degree (B.A. and/or B.S.) in a field related to work of this position or no less than 120 credit hours from an accredited post-secondary school in areas related to the work of this position;
- ✓ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of federal and/or state grants management systems and any applicable policies, laws and other relevant regulations; and
- ✓ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of accounting and/or auditing concepts as they apply to state and federal government funds.

**HOW TO APPLY:**
Interested applicants may pick up a complete job description and application forms at the NMPASI office located on middle road approximately 100 yards north of the Gualo Rai traffic light intersection. Completed application must be submitted to the Executive Director at the NMPASI Office. In order for applications to be considered they must include **(1) a Cover Letter (2) a Resume'** and **(3) Completed Application forms.** Incomplete Application and/or applications which do not demonstrate that the applicant meets the minimum qualifications as listed above or do not meet the deadline for submittal do not meet will not be considered. For further information, please feel free to contact **Mr. Gregory Borja at (670) 235-7273/4 (Voice)/ (670) 287-0652 (Message)** or email at **gborja@nmpasi.org. NMPASI is an EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.**

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 18, 2022 AT 4PM**

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS | OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM
JUAN A. SABLAN BUILDING | CALLER BOX 10007 | SAIPAN, MP 96950 | 670.664.2417 | INFO@HM.GOV.MP

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION FOR
Engineering and Design-Related Services-
Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
Fire Stations 1-Susupe and 5-Kagman Roof Hardening Project
RFQ23-GOV/DFEMS-42300001

The Office of the Governor, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), through the Governor's Authorized Representative (collectively, "Commonwealth") on behalf of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS), is soliciting sealed proposals for engineering and design-related services for the DFEMS Fire Stations 1-Susupe and 5- Kagman Roof Hardening Project on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Procurement procedures shall comply with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 28, 2001, or the latest revision thereof. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor, and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the CNMI.

Selected architects and engineers will be retained as independent contractors under the general provision of the contracting officer or his designee. Architects and engineers will act as agents of the expenditure authority on assigned projects to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within cost, time, and legal requirements while maintaining effective stakeholder communications.

Interested firms may pick up the scope of work and submittal requirements at the Office of Governor, HMGP Office, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or request electronically Colin R. Sablan at crsablan@omb.gov.mp, beginning **October 14, 2022**, during working hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday through Friday, except on holidays). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the requirements identified in the scope of work and submittal requirements.

There will be a pre-proposal meeting on October 27, 2022, at 10:30 a.m., at the Office of Governor, HMGP Office, Juan A. Sablan Building Capitol Hill Saipan. Questions about this project shall be addressed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia, P.E., in writing by email at esb.cip@gmail.com on or before November 7, 2022.

The selection of individuals for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement Services, Procurement Regulations §7070-30.3-305. To qualify for the project, the firm must have a valid CNMI Business License, be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and hold a Certificate of Authorization from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Fee estimates will assist the DFEMS for budgeting purposes but will not be considered in the firm evaluation scores.

Statement of Qualification must be presented by a combination of brochures and the current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Qualification of the personnel in the firm | 30% |
| 2. Experiences on similar projects in the Pacific Area | 30% |
| 3. Project Approach including a timeline | 30% |
| 4. Work Load | 10% |
| 5. Fee proposal | 0% |

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three ranked firms or with all the firms. After a selection, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subject to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

The performance time is four (4) months upon notice to proceed.

Proposals must be sealed and marked RFQ23-GOV/DFEMS-42300001 Request for Qualification for Engineering and Design-Related Services DFEMS Fire Stations 1-Susupe and 5-Kagman Roof Hardening Project. Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the requirements identified in the scope of work and submittal requirements. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and two (2) copies and a USB containing the electronic copy of the qualifications statements must be submitted to the Director of Procurement Services, 1st Floor Horiguchi Building, Kopa Di Oru Street, Garapan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 9:30 a.m. ChST, November 23, 2022. Proposers outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a notice of intent to propose. The Director of Procurement Services must receive notice of intent to propose no later than 9:30 a.m. ChST, November 23, 2022, must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via email to bidintent@dof.gov.mp. For proposers outside the CNMI, one original and two (2) copies and a USB containing the electronic copy of the qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 23, 2022. The Director of Procurement Services must receive them by December 2, 2022. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be a cause for rejection of a bid.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfections in any bid if, in its opinion, doing so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

Patrick C. Guerrero
Governor's Authorized Representative

Francisco C. Aguon
Acting Director, Procurement Services

# 500 Sails' canoe now a permanent feature of community sails

NONSTOP CORP.

Ånimuyi sits pretty on the shore of the Guma Sakman after sailing with the rest of the 500 Sails canoe fleet during Commonwealth Culture Day. Photo courtesy of Nonstop Corp.

NONSTOP CORP.

500 Sails aims for the day it can see a horizon full of sails. Pictured here from left to right are canoes Aunty Oba, Richard Seman, Deedee, and Ånimuyi. Managaha is in the background. Photo courtesy of Nonstop Corp.

500 Sails thanks the community members, Benito family, Indigenous Affairs Office, Northern Marianas Humanities Council, Nonstop Corp., artist Maria Manlo, and Bank of Saipan for their support of Ånimuyi›s official launch, held in San Jose on October 10.

500 Sails spent part of 2021 and most of 2022 creating Ånimuyi. She is a 15-foot vessel made out of modern fiberglass and bamboo; however, like all 500 Sails canoes, she is based on the Anson drawing, which was what Chamorros were sailing in 1742. A unique feature of Ånimuyi is her design, skillfully painted by artist Maria Manalo, who took inspiration from patterns she found in the natural world.

Beginning in the month of September, after Ånimuyi was completed, she was exhibited in the Bank of Saipan along with various canoe models and other seafaring items. To celebrate Commonwealth Cultural Day on Oct. 10, 500 Sails officially launched the 15-foot sailing canoe on the premises of the Bank of Saipan.

The ceremony was marked by an invocation in Chamorro led by Ben "Lamlam" San Nicolas, a traditional chant from master navigator Mario Benito, and a short address by Jomanda Manglona of the Indigenous Affairs Office.

Following the ceremony, 500 Sails lalayak and members of the community were invited to carry Ånimuyi from the Bank of Saipan, across Beach Road, and onto the adjacent beach for Ånimuyi›s first official sail. Joining Ånimuyi that day was the rest of 500 Sails' fleet—canoes Aunty Oba, Richard Seman, Deedee, and Anaguan.

The canoes launched from San Jose with a blowing of a kulu (shell trumpet) and sailed to the nearby Guma Sakman in Susupe.

"500 Sails is aiming for the day when we look out on the horizon and see an ocean filled with sails," said Andrew Roberto, 500 Sails director of Community Programs. "If you see Nonstop Corp.'s images from today's event, you can see the beauty of the lagoon and the beauty of these canoes. However, at a deeper level, you can see something else beautiful as well—these boats represent a tradition that is revived, which is so appropriate, given that we launched this boat on Commonwealth Cultural Day. Every day, Pacific peoples face existential crises in regards to their environment, identity, and sovereignty. But the canoe is a vessel that connects us to the environment, taps into our Oceanic identity, and allows us sovereignty over our lives. It's truly the vessel of life."

The 500 Sails fleet continued to sail around the lagoon after Ånimuyi touched down in front of the Guma Sakman. Now that the 15-foot vessel lives in the 500 Sails canoe house, Ånimuyi (and the rest of the fleet) will be available to give rides every Saturday as part of the Saturday Sail program. The entire community can ride on 26-foot vessels and 15-foot vessels at absolutely no charge. Saturday Sails take place from 9am to 2pm at the Guma Sakman, Susupe, across Marianas High School, directly adjacent to the Tronkon Da'ok palapala.

Visit 500 Sails official Facebook page to view more amazing photos from the launch ceremony. ***(500 Sails)***

# USDOL recovers $17K for eight workers in Guam

**DEDEDO, Guam**—The U.S. Department of Labor has recovered $17,164 in back wages from a federal subcontractor who denied full wages and benefits to eight workers providing pest control services at U.S. Air Force and Navy installations in Guam.

The department's Wage and Hour Division found Pacific Pest Control Inc. in Dededo violated the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act for failing to pay affected workers the correct wage rates set by federal law for their services. Instead, the employer paid lower hourly rates than those required for pest controllers and failed to fully provide their health benefits as required.

Investigators also found the employer violated the overtime pay requirements under the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act when they based overtime calculations on the lower, incorrect wage rates.

"Not paying workers their full wages makes it harder for them to make ends meet," said Wage and Hour Division district director Terence Trotter in Honolulu. "Doing so also allows employers to improperly reduce labor costs and gain an unfair competitive advantage over businesses that comply with the law."

During the period of the investigation, Pacific Pest Control Inc. was working as a subcontractor for Defense Base Services Inc., an Anchorage, Alaska, company.

In 2021, the Wage and Hour Division recovered more than $48 million in back wages due to over 21,000 employees working on federal contracts. For confidential compliance assistance about the Service Contract Act and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, call the agency's toll-free helpline at 866-4US-WAGE (487-9243). ***(PR)***

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Attorney for Petitioner Julia B. Cameron

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TRINIDAD BENAVENTE CAMERON, Decedent. | Civil Action No.: 22-0211<br>AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS<br>Date: November 10, 2022<br>Time: 10:00 a.m.<br>Judge: Joseph N. Camacho |

**TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE TRINIDAD BENAVENTE CAMERON OR HER ESTATE:**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Petitioner Julia B. Cameron has filed a Verified Petition to Admit Estate Into Probate and Appointment of Administratrix, requesting the Court to admit the Estate of Trinidad Benavente Cameron into probate and to appoint Leolanie Benavente Demapan as the Administratrix of the Estate. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5962 Plata Drive (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons and entities should appear at the hearing. Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claims should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein indicated.

Dated this 12th day of October, 2022.

/s/
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**DEVELOPMENT OF ECHO DOCK**
**PORT OF SAIPAN**
**CPA RFP NO. CPA-RFP-010-2022**
**(CPA CONCESSION NO. SEA 2022-01)**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("Authority") is inviting qualified developers and their development teams to submit sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the "RFP") and other contract provisions, for the development of Echo Dock, which is situated north of the Port of Saipan. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the Authority because the Authority wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluated by cost alone. This RFP is being issued pursuant to NMIAC § 40-70-205.

The RFP Package is available beginning Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at the Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of a non-refundable administrative fee of $200.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check, or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Other than this administrative fee, proposers are not required to submit a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Authority will hold a briefing for interested parties at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2022, to explain the Authority's development objectives, the RFP process, and to answer questions. The meeting will be held at the Authority's Seaport Conference Room, George Fleming Building. All potential applicants are encouraged to attend but it is not mandatory.

All proposers are requested to pay attention to the following significant dates and times:

| | |
|---|---|
| Date RFP Package becomes available | August 31, 2022 (8:00 AM) |
| Date of RFP briefing meeting | September 16, 2022 (10:00 AM) |
| Deadline to submit Notice of Intent | September 28, 2022 (4:00 PM) |
| Deadline to submit Statement of Qualifications | October 13, 2022 (4:00 PM) |
| Notification of qualified applicants of the RFP | October 28, 2022 |
| Deadline for RFP submission | November 30, 2022 (4:00 PM) |

Qualified proposers shall submit their sealed proposals to the "CPA Evaluation Committee" and mark the outside cover of its submittal as follows: "RFP Proposal: Confidential - Development of the Echo Dock, Saipan (RFP-010-2022)." Five (5) hard copies and one electronic copy on CD, DVD, or flash drive of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. CHST, Wednesday, November 30, 2022**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:**

**/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Executive Director

Date **8/26/2022**

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
EMAIL: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

**Request for Proposals for: CPA Concession No. CRS-2022-01**

**Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport**
**"Car Rental Concession"**
**CPA-RFP-011-22**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport ("Car Rental Concession"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for a period of eighteen (18) months (contract to end on 05/31/2024) upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-011-22 is **October 12, 2022**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on November 22, 2022**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of $100.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

**/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Executive Director

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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## EDITORIAL

## From same-sex marriage to marijuana, we've agreed to agree

As the midterm elections come ever closer, it can feel as if we're stewing in a cauldron of tribalism, of our side vs. their side with no middle ground and little agreement on much of anything. That makes it a good time to take a breath and realize the consensus we've reached on some issues that were incredibly contentious not long ago. It gives us hope in the angry days ahead.

Same-sex marriage? Remember when Barack Obama said he opposed gay marriage in 2008 as he was running for president? He was in the mainstream then, but that view is firmly outside of it now. Fully 70% of Americans support same-sex marriage. A generation ago, when Gallup first asked the question, only 27% did. It was in 2011—barely a decade ago—that Americans' support first surpassed opposition to same-sex marriage. (Obama publicly changed his position the next year.) What was once illegal is now celebrated.

Marijuana? A vast majority of Americans are with the late reggae star Bob Marley when he sang, "Le-gal-ize it." Two-thirds of Americans think marijuana should be legal, a record high (sorry), according to Gallup. That's quite a reversal in just a generation. Twenty years ago, two-thirds were against legalizing it. Americans came to realize that the ridiculous old movie "Reefer Madness" was parody more than parable as it became a cult classic. Marijuana, we now agree, is not meth.

Abortion. There is even some agreement on still-divisive issues like abortion. Nearly six in 10 Americans didn't want the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade, and 85% think abortion should be legal at least in some circumstances. Of course, there's a huge real-world difference between banning abortions after six weeks or limiting them at the former Roe standard of fetal viability. But it's worth remembering that amid all of the angry debate, only 13% support an outright ban. In other words, nearly nine in 10 Americans think some abortions should be legal. Even among Republicans, only a 58% majority supported overturning Roe. For context, that wouldn't be a big-enough majority to pass a constitutional amendment in Florida.

Given what we've seen happen on formerly divisive issues such as marijuana and same-sex marriage, who knows where public opinion on abortion might land in less than a generation? We might be surprised at the bridge that can be built between those who believe in a woman's right to choose and control her body and those who believe that life begins at conception.

This is not a pollyanna-ish request to cut election deniers any slack or to let lies go uncorrected. It's just a small tonic to imbibe as you fill out your mail-in ballot or prepare to vote in person, to keep in mind how different our views as Americans are from where they were even a few years ago—and how much we actually agree on. As the late poet Maya Angelou wrote in "Human Family," "We are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike."

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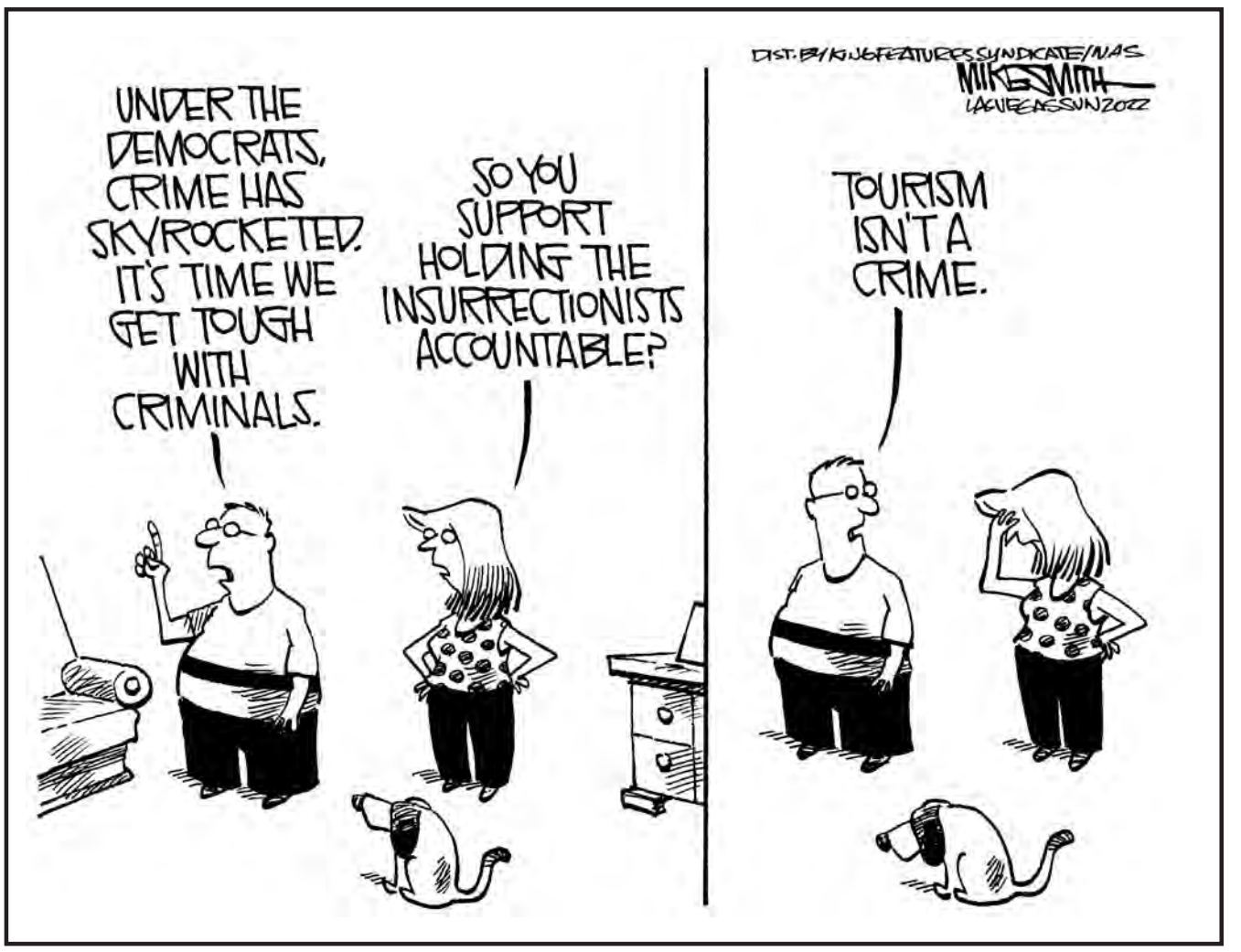

DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/NAS
MIKE SMITH
LAS VEGAS SUN 2022
UNDER THE DEMOCRATS, CRIME HAS SKYROCKETED. IT'S TIME WE GET TOUGH WITH CRIMINALS.
SO YOU SUPPORT HOLDING THE INSURRECTIONISTS ACCOUNTABLE?
TOURISM ISN'T A CRIME.

# Will Putin's exit be an off-ramp or trapdoor?

**By MARTIN SCHRAM**
Tribune News Service

*Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for* Tribune News Service*, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.*

Once again, the talking- and typing-heads are filling our news screens with double-doming about building an "off-ramp" Vladimir Putin will be willing to take to get out of the Ukraine war.

But Putin still doesn't seem to be looking for an off-ramp. He's frantically watching out for a trapdoor. It may well be his most likely exit from the Ukraine war he now knows he can't win.

A now panicky Putin fears he might stumble or strut onto an unseen trapdoor that could instantly become his (how to say) downfall. A yank of a lever—by an unseen hand of a military hard-liner (or even thousands of clenched fists of fed-up ordinary Russians!)—could suddenly send Putin plummeting out of power, faster than he can say "Nikita Khrushchev!" or "Mikhail Gorbachev!" It could be his only exit.

Millions of stunned ordinary Russians now see Putin for the con artist he really has been all along. He assured the citizens he ruled that the war he started in Ukraine wasn't a war—but was being won. Right up until his ground war collapsed and his troops fled rather than fight Ukrainians. Then Putin announced his mucked-up mobilization. For the first time since 1941, Russia began rushing young and middle-aged men, husbands and fathers to fight and maybe die in a war they don't give a rat's patootie about.

"The war has come to Russia, and it's a termination of the social contract," Oleg Ignatov, a senior analyst with the Brussels-based Crisis Group think tank, told Newsweek. Hundreds of thousands of Russian men fled rather than fight. Hundreds of thousands of courageous Russians began protesting Putin's war in city streets. Many were jailed, but their antiwar message spread.

Half a world away, Americans of a certain age know too damn well the antiwar rage Russia's millions are now feeling. We felt it six decades ago, when America began drafting men to fight a war they didn't understand, in a place called Vietnam they couldn't even find on a map. America's antiwar crusade eventually helped end that un-won war.

So ordinary Americans get what ordinary Russians are feeling. And Putin, who is arrogant but not stupid, gets where this debacle of a war he started in Ukraine can end up—in Ukraine and even in the power corridors of the Kremlin. His on-the-ground generals screwed up militarily. Their unmotivated troops ran out of supplies and fled. Putin took charge and things got even worse. Unable to defeat Ukraine forces on the ground, Putin chose instead to use high-tech missiles and artillery from far away to indiscriminately slaughter the very civilians he had just told the world were really his fellow Russians. Ukraine troops, fortified by U.S. and NATO high-tech offensive and defensive weaponry, are taking back Ukraine eastern and southern territory Russian-backed troops have occupied for several years. Now Putin has turned the war over to an infamous air force commander who earned his infame by slaughtering innocent Syrian civilians from afar.

Putin has shamed his own Russian people, as the world watched his war crimes with disgust. Putin's military has almost run out of its high-tech weaponry. He has no good next-step option. Indeed, he's fearing his next step could be atop one of those unseen trapdoors.

"If the Russian armed forces continue to lose on the battlefield, the only way to end this war might involve putting someone else in power in Moscow," former U.S. ambassador to Russia, Michael McFaul, wrote most perceptively in a recent Washington Post commentary.

"To date, the hawks in Russia are loud and public. But if the war continues to go badly, the voices quietly supporting suing for peace will grow. Tensions between the Russian military and intelligence services are already spilling into the open. These tensions will only grow if Russia's soldiers continue to die and retreat in Ukraine."

On Oct. 10, in France, the respected Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize was awarded by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to a courageous Russian who was otherwise occupied and unable to accept it in person. Vladimir Kara-Murza, a contributing columnist for The Washington Post, is in a Russian prison awaiting trial for the crime of reporting "fake news" about Putin's Ukraine war that Putin insisted cannot be called a war.

"With the start of this brutal invasion of Ukraine, Putin also launched another war—a war on truth in our own country," Kara-Murza said in an acceptance speech read, in France, by his wife. "… in today's Russia of Vladimir Putin, speaking the truth is considered a crime against the state….

"I look forward to (the day) … when a peaceful, democratic and Putin-free Russia returns … (and) we can finally start building that whole, free and peaceful Europe we all want to see."

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Amata's statement on Supreme Court declining *Fitisemanu* case

*American Samoa Delegate Uifa'atali Amata welcomes news on Monday that the U.S. Supreme Court did not take up the* Fitisemanu *case, allowing the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals decision to stand and in essence confirming the prior Tuaua case in the D.C. Court of Appeals. This outcome helps preserve American Samoa's cultural priorities and right of self-determination.*

**By UIFA'ATALI AMATA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Uifa'atali Amata is the delegate of American Samoa in the U.S. Congress.*

"First of all, we owe an enormous thank you to attorney Michael F. Williams, a prominent attorney with a prestigious law office, who has represented American Samoa pro bono on this case for years. He is married to Julin Pan Williams of Lauli'i Village. We hope this is the final word so that we don't continue to put Mr. Williams through all of this.

"I welcome this outcome from the Supreme Court, and the fact they chose to respect the self-determination of the people of American Samoa, and the emphasis our people place on preserving our Fa'a Samoa (the Samoan way). This result is of utmost importance to preserving the American Samoa we know with the continuation of family land and our matai heritage, which our ancestors very clearly did not intend to let go in their actions of 1900 and 1904. Our people value American Samoa's right of self-determination, with great love for the United States as expressed in our people's high rate of service to the country.

"The issue of the Insular Cases can be addressed by Congress, based on self-determination by the people of each territory. Finally, Congress should now pass my bill, H.R. 1941, to better assist U.S. nationals, especially those living in the [United] States, who wish to personally choose citizenship. Under my sensible and concise bill, a U.S. national can quickly and affordably become a citizen as an individual, without forcing a group change on the islands.

"God bless American Samoa and the United States of America."

# 'A punch in the gut'

**By JOHN FITISEMANU**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John Fitisemanu is the lead plaintiff in* Fitisemanu v. United States *and now lives in Utah.*

It's a punch in the gut for the Justices to leave in place a ruling that says I am not equal to other Americans simply because I was born in a U.S. territory. I was born on U.S. soil, have a U.S. passport, and pay my taxes like everyone else. But because of a discriminatory federal law, I am not recognized as a U.S. citizen. As a result, I can't even vote in local elections, much less for President. This is un-American and cannot be squared with America's democratic and constitutional principles.

I had hoped to hear today that I would have my day before the U.S. Supreme Court. But instead the justices continue to avoid answering basic questions about what rights people from U.S. territories can expect. People from the territories deserve better from this court and better from this nation.

# Unresolved and uncertain

**By CHARLES V. ALA'ILIMA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Charles V. Ala'ilima is a prominent American Samoan attorney who is co-counsel in* Fitisemanu v. United States.

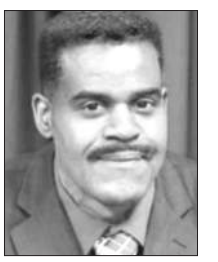
The Supreme Court has yet again left unresolved the question whether people born in American Samoa are U.S. citizens, which is a disservice both to those who want recognition of a right to citizenship and those who oppose it. I continue to stand in agreement with what our traditional leaders knew to be true: that when our people transferred sovereignty to the United States they had a right to be recognized as full and equal citizens.

The Supreme Court's inaction also leaves unresolved whether the Insular Cases remain good law. This creates uncertainty around whether and how the Constitution applies in U.S. territories. I personally believe the U.S. Constitution is broad enough to allow our customs and practices to continue. It does no one any favors for the Supreme Court to keep residents of the territories guessing on what their rights are and what is permissible under the U.S. flag.

*The plaintiffs in Fitisemanu v. United States are also represented by attorneys at Gibson, Dunn, & Crutcher LLP.*

# We all have a role to play in stopping bullying

**By JERALD MCNAIR**
Chicago Tribune



*Jerald McNair is a school administrator at South Holland School District 151 in Illinois.*

It has been more than 20 years since the first state passed anti-bullying legislation. The Columbine High School massacre in 1999, in which 12 students and one teacher were fatally shot and 21 others wounded by two students who reportedly were bullied and acted as bullies, catapulted the topic of bullying to a new awareness.

Our society began learning about the broad impact bullying has on the mental, social and psychological well-being of our youths. How we define bullying has gradually expanded. The enormous growth of social media platforms has played a major role in how we interpret and describe it.

Lawmakers have responded. States across the country have laws that require schools to form and enforce policies to prevent and penalize bullying. According to the Cyberbullying Research Center, 49 states have mandates that schools must follow to effectively deal with bullying. However, the ever-evolving tech world and social media platforms make it difficult for educators and lawmakers to curtail it.

Bullying takes on different forms, such as cyberbullying and social, physical and verbal harassment. Cyberbullying occurs more frequently because it can take place in multiple venues and at any time. It is often difficult to ascertain all of the participants involved because platforms may allow individuals to hide their identities.

Students who are bullied are more likely to experience lower grades, depression and anxiety, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data. Nearly 14% of public schools report that bullying takes place at least once a week. It's more frequent in middle school, followed by high school.

Middle school students may be more likely to take part in bullying because those are the years when youths begin to exhibit their independence. They become more aware of their bodies and how they are perceived by their peers, which makes them more likely to fall prey to peer pressure.

Because of their role in shaping how youths communicate with others, it's important for parents and guardians to be cognizant of how they comport themselves in front of their preteens and teens, such as how they engage someone at the store, how they behave while driving in traffic and the tone they use when talking to friends and neighbors. If youths routinely see adults engage in practices that are aggressive or mean-spirited, it's likely these youths will mimic those behaviors, regardless of the consequences.

Adults can also influence how youths engage with social media platforms. If adults take part in unhealthy habits, such as spending an inordinate amount of time on social media posting negative comments or numerous pictures and selfies, youths may duplicate those practices. Psychologists often lament the negative impact that "likes" and the opposite have on the self-esteem of youths. The saying, "Hurt people hurt people," tells the story.

Adults' awareness of their own practices is necessary. After all, the development of our youths is our responsibility. Each of us plays a role in guiding our youths and teaching them the appropriate ways of communicating. Unfortunately, when it comes to bullying, we often focus on what happens at schools. Yet so much of it takes place outside of school.

Certainly, institutions of learning must meet the challenges and put safeguards in place to ensure that youths are able to feel safe at school. The laws recognize schools' obligation.

However, the responsibility does not end at school. How adults behave matters. Studies show adults do, indeed, bully. Data from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health reveals the existence and effects of bullying in the workplace. Unfortunately, not enough research has been done on adult bullying. At the same, it plays out regularly at the supermarket or at a fast-food restaurant when a customer verbally assaults an employee for a mistake. Most children have witnessed angry reactions in drivers when someone makes a mistake while driving or simply because they are not going fast enough.

October, as National Bullying Prevention Month, brings the issue of public behavior and bullying to the forefront. While schools should review their policies and practices to ensure that students are safe, it's imperative that adults don't model the practices of bullies.

Simply put, how we speak to and treat each other matters. Behaving appropriately is something we all should do and not just in October. The celebrated diarist Anne Frank once said, "How wonderful it is that nobody has to wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

Bullying is wrong, and we can all stop it.

# The fight for equal rights continues

**By NEIL WEARE**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Neil Weare is president of Equally American, which advocates for equality and civil rights in U.S. territories, and co-counsel in* Fitisemanu v. United States.

The Supreme Court's refusal to reconsider the *Insular Cases* today continues to reflect that "Equal Justice Under Law" does not mean the same thing for the 3.6 million residents of U.S. territories as it does for everyone else. The Supreme Court in recent years has not hesitated to rule in ways that harm residents of U.S. territories. But when asked to stand up for the rights of people in the territories—even the basic right to citizenship—the justices are silent.

Today's inaction by the justices highlights the fact that America has a colonies problem. On top of that, our country stubbornly refuses to recognize that this problem even exists, much less do anything about it. The population of the five U.S. territories is equal to that of the five smallest states, yet residents of the territories—98% of whom are people of color—cannot vote for President, have no voting representation in Congress, and are systematically denied their right to self-determination.

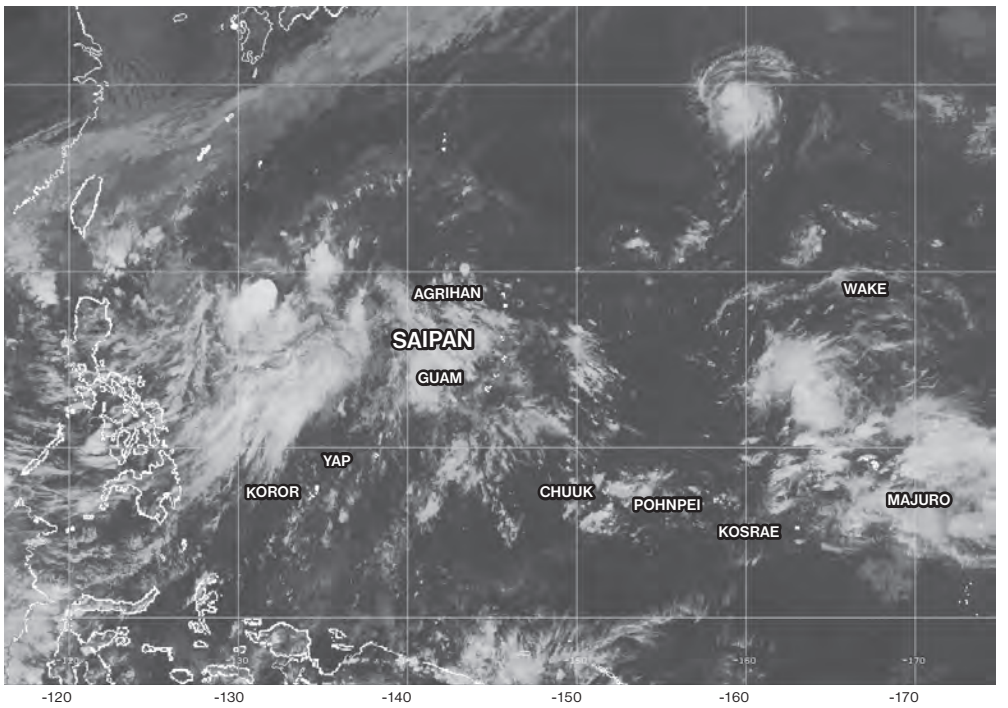
While the Supreme Court's inaction today is a setback to be sure, the fight to make sure there are no second-class citizens or colonies in the United States will continue.

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny | Mostly sunny | Mostly sunny | A chance of showers. Partly sunny | A chance of showers. Partly sunny |
| 88° 76° | 88° 76° | 88° 76° | 86° 76° | 86° 76° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 7:20 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trade-wind trough is bringing showers to the Marianas. Over the past several hours cloud tops have been warming and radar now shows more stratiform rain than convective showers. The Ritidian buoy has seas at 3 to 4 feet with a 9 second period.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | ▲ ▼ °F | |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Scattered Thunderstorms | 87° / 78° |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 86° / 75° |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 86° / 77° |
| Chuuk | Partly Cloudy | 85° / 77° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 87° / 78° |
| Kosrae | Showers | 85° / 79° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 86° / 79° |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:09 AM | 5:54 PM |
| Thursday | 6:09 AM | 5:53 PM |
| Friday | 6:09 AM | 5:53 PM |
| Saturday | 6:10 AM | 5:52 PM |
| Sunday | 6:10 AM | 5:52 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | 12:35 AM | 1:54 PM | - |
| Thursday | 1:27 AM | 2:35 PM | - |
| Friday | 2:18 AM | 3:13 PM | - |
| Saturday | 3:08 AM | 3:50 PM | - |
| Sunday | 3:58 AM | 4:27 PM | - |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | ▲ ▼ °F | |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | 61° / 53° |
| Beijing | Sunny | 68° / 42° |
| Hong Kong | Cloudy | 78° / 73° |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | 86° / 73° |
| London | Cloudy | 64° / 57° |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | 86° / 67° |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 89° / 78° |
| Melbourne | Sunny | 72° / 49° |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | 87° / 70° |
| New York | Partly Cloudy | 57° / 40° |
| Osaka | Sunny | 68° / 52° |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | 74° / 61° |
| Busan | Sunny | 67° / 49° |
| Rome | Sunny | 80° / 56° |
| Salem | Sunny | 56° / 35° |
| San Francisco | Cloudy | 74° / 55° |
| Seoul | Sunny | 62° / 41° |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | 60° / 51° |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | 56° / 37° |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 12:48 AM | High Tide | 1.26 |
| 8:45 AM | Low Tide | 0.19 |
| 4:41 PM | High Tide | 1.63 |
| 10:38 PM | Low Tide | 1.07 |

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 6, 2022

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117 | 9:50AM | 10:30AM | Daily |
| UA156 | 6:30PM | 7:15PM | 6 |

### GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PR 111 | 6:00AM | 8:00AM | Daily |
| UA193 | 7:05PM | 10:55PM | 5 via Palau |
| UA183 | 7:20PM | 9:10PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117/183 | 9:50AM | 9:10PM | Daily via Guam |
| UA117/193 | 9:50AM | 10:55PM | 5 via Guam, Palau |
| OZ624/701 | 4:00PM | 11:05AM+1 | 3,6 via Incheon |

### SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TW308 | 3:30PM | 7:20PM | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| 7C3405 | 3:30PM | 7:25PM | 6 |
| 7C3405 | 3:50PM | 7:45PM | 3, 4, 7 |
| OZ624 | 4:00PM | 7:40PM | 3, 6 |

### SAIPAN-NARITA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA824 | 7:00AM | 9:30AM | 1, 3, 5 |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3451 | 3:00PM | 6:35PM | 3, 7 |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA174 | 8:00AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| UA112 | 4:40PM | 5:30PM | 6 |

### MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PR110 | 10:00PM | 4:00AM+1 | Daily |
| UA184 | 10:25PM | 4:25AM+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA192 | 10:25PM | 6:15AM+1 | 5 via Palau |
| UA184 | 11:50PM | 5:40AM+1 | 5 |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA184/174 | 10:25PM | 8:45AM+1 | 1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam |
| UA192/174 | 10:25PM | 8:45AM+1 | 5 via Palau, Guam |
| UA192/112 | 10:25PM | 5:30pm+1 | 5 via Palau, Guam |
| UA184/174 | 11:50PM | 8:45AM+1 | 5 via Guam |
| UA184/112 | 11:50PM | 5:30pm+1 | 5 via Guam |
| OZ704/623 | 11:55PM | 2:30PM+1 | 2,5 via Incheon |

### INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3406 | 8:30AM | 2:10PM | 6 |
| 7C3406 | 8:50AM | 2:30PM | 4 |
| 7C3406 | 8:50AM | 2:50PM | 3, 7 |
| OZ623 | 9:00AM | 2:30PM | 3, 6 |
| TW307 | 9:00AM | 2:30PM | 4, 6, 7 |
| TW307 | 9:15AM | 2:30PM | 3 |

### NARITA-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA825 | 9:25PM | 2:00 AM+1 | 2, 4, 7 |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3452 | 9:00AM | 2:00PM | 3, 7 |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

# MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

## INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00 A.M. | 7:15 A.M. | (Except Sundays) |
| 9:50 A.M. | 10:05 A.M. | |
| 4:00 P.M. | 4:15 P.M. | (Except Saturdays) |

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:35 A.M. | 7:50 A.M. | (Except Sundays) |
| 10:25 A.M. | 10:40 A.M. | |
| 4:35 P.M. | 4:50 P.M. | (Except Saturdays) |

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:10 A.M. | 8:40 A.M. | |
| 1:45 P.M. | 2:15 P.M. | |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 9:00 A.M. | 9:30 A.M. | |
| 2:35 P.M. | 3:05 P.M. | |

### SAIPAN TO GUAM

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 11:10 A.M. | 12:00 P.M. | |
| 5:15 P.M. | 6:05 P.M. | |

### GUAM TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 12:30 P.M. | 1:20 P.M. | |
| 6:40 P.M. | 7:30 P.M. | |

# STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 8:30 | 9:00 | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:00 | 11:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |
| 1302 | 12:00 | 12:30 | Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun |
| 1303 | 15:30 | 16:00 | Daily |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily |
| 3102 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun |
| 3102 | 14:00 | 14:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |
| 3103 | 16:30 | 17:00 | Daily |

### ROTA TO GUAM

| LIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:00 | 12:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |

### GUAM TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1202 | 8:00 | 8:15 | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00 | 9:15 | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00 | 10:15 | Daily |
| 1208 | 14:00 | 14:15 | Daily |
| 1209 | 15:00 | 15:15 | Daily |
| 1210 | 16:00 | 16:15 | Daily |
| 1211 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Daily |

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2102 | 8:30 | 8:45 | Daily |
| 2103 | 9:30 | 9:45 | Daily |
| 2104 | 10:30 | 10:45 | Daily |
| 2108 | 14:30 | 14:45 | Daily |
| 2109 | 15:30 | 15:45 | Daily |
| 2110 | 16:30 | 16:45 | Daily |
| 2111 | 17:30 | 17:45 | Daily |

# Business

# Bad situation: Soaring US dollar spreads pain worldwide

By PAUL WISEMAN, KELVIN CHAN, SAMY MAGDY and AYSE WIETING
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP
A woman holds up dollar bills to show that she wants to be paid in U.S. currency, during protests of active and retired public workers demanding the government pay their full benefits in Caracas, Venezuela,

The cost of living in Cairo has soared so much that security guard Mustafa Gamal had to send his wife and year-old daughter to live with his parents in a village 70 miles south of the Egyptian capital to save money.

Gamal, 28, stayed behind, working two jobs, sharing an apartment with other young people and eliminating meat from his diet. "The prices of everything have been doubled," he said. "There was no alternative."

Around the world, people are sharing Gamal's pain and frustration. An auto parts dealer in Nairobi, a seller of baby clothes in Istanbul and a wine importer in Manchester, England have the same complaint: A surging U.S. dollar makes their local currencies weaker, contributing to skyrocketing prices for everyday goods and services. This is compounding financial distress at a time when families are already facing food and energy crunches tied to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"A strong dollar makes a bad situation worse in the rest of the world," says Eswar Prasad, a professor of trade policy at Cornell University.

Many economists worry that the sharp rise of the dollar is increasing the likelihood of a global recession sometime next year.

The dollar is up 18% this year and last month hit a 20-year high, according to the benchmark ICE U.S. Dollar Index, which measures the dollar against a basket of key currencies.

The reasons for the dollar's rise are no mystery. To combat soaring U.S. inflation, the Federal Reserve has raised its benchmark short-term interest rate five times this year, and is signaling more hikes are likely. That has led to higher rates on a wide range of U.S. government and corporate bonds, luring investors and driving up the U.S. currency.

Most other currencies are much weaker by comparison, especially in poor countries. The Indian rupee has dropped nearly 10% this year against the dollar, the Egyptian pound 20%, the Turkish lira an astounding 28%.

Celal Kaleli, 60, sells infant clothing and diaper bags in Istanbul. Because he needs more lira to buy imported zippers and liners priced in dollars, he has to raise prices for the Turkish customers who struggle to pay him in the much-diminished local currency. "We're waiting for the new year," he said. "We'll look into our finances, and we'll downsize accordingly. There's nothing else we can do."

Rich countries aren't immune. In Europe, which was already teetering toward recession amid soaring energy prices, one euro is worth less than a $1 for the first time in 20 years, and the British pound has plunged 18% from a year ago. The pound recently flirted with dollar parity after Britain's new prime minister, Liz Truss, announced huge tax cuts that roiled financial markets and led to the ouster of her Treasury secretary.

Ordinarily, countries could get some benefit from falling currencies because it makes their products cheaper and more competitive overseas. But at the moment, any gain from higher exports is muted because economic growth is sputtering almost everywhere.

A rising dollar is causing pain overseas in a number of ways:

■ It makes other countries' imports more expensive, adding to existing inflationary pressures.

■ It squeezes companies, consumers and governments that borrowed in dollars. That's because more local currency is needed to convert into dollars when making loan payments.

■ It forces central banks in other countries to raise interest rates to try and prop up their currencies and keep money from fleeing their borders. But those higher rates also weaken economic growth and drive up unemployment.

Put simply: "The dollar's appreciation is bad news for the global economy," says Capital Economics' Ariane Curtis. "It is another reason why we expect the global economy to fall into recession next year."

## US businesses propose hiding trade data used to trace abuse

By JOSHUA GOODMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A group of major U.S. businesses wants the government to hide key import data—a move trade experts say would make it more difficult for Americans to link the products they buy to labor abuse overseas.

The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee is made up of executives from 20 companies, including Walmart, General Motors and Intel. The committee is authorized by U.S. Customs and Border Protection to advise on ways to streamline trade regulations.

Last week -- ahead of closed-door meetings starting Monday in Washington with senior officials from CBP and other federal agencies -- the executives quietly unveiled proposals they said would modernize import and export rules to keep pace with trade volumes that have nearly quintupled in the past three decades. The Associated Press obtained a copy of the proposal from a committee member.

Among the proposed changes: making data collected from vessel manifests confidential.

The information is vitally important for researchers and reporters seeking to hold corporations accountable for the mistreatment of workers in their foreign supply chains.

Here's how it works: Journalists document a situation where laborers are being forced to work and cannot leave. They then use the shipping manifests to show where the products end up, and sometimes even their brand names and whether they're on a shelf at a local supermarket or a rack of clothes at a local mall.

The proposal, if adopted, would shroud in secrecy customs data on ocean-going freight responsible for about half of the $2.7 trillion in goods entering the U.S. every year. Rail, truck and air cargo is already shielded from public disclosure under U.S. trade law.

"This is outrageous," said Martina Vandenberg, a human rights lawyer who has filed petitions with CBP seeking to block shipments of goods suspected of being made by forced labor.

"Every year we continue to import and sell millions of dollars in goods tainted by forced labor," said Vandenberg, president of the Washington-based Human Trafficking Legal Center. "Corporate America should be ashamed that their answer to this abuse is to end transparency. It's time they get on the right side of history."

CBP said it would not comment on ideas that have not been formally submitted by its advisory committee but said that the group's proposals are developed with input gathered in public meetings.

But one of CBP's stated goals in creating what it has dubbed a "21st Century Customs Framework" is to boost visibility into global supply chains, support ethical sourcing practices and level the playing field for domestic U.S. manufacturers.

## UK leader in peril after Treasury chief axes 'Trussonomics'

**LONDON** (AP)—The U.K.'s new Treasury chief ripped up the government's economic plan on Monday, dramatically reversing most of the tax cuts and spending plans that new Prime Minister Liz Truss announced less than a month ago. The move raises more questions about how long the beleaguered British leader can stay in office, though Truss insisted she has no plans to quit.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Jeremy Hunt, said he was scrapping "almost all" of Truss' tax cuts, along with her flagship energy policy and her promise — repeated just last week — that there will be no public spending cuts.

While the reversal of policy calmed financial markets and helped restore the government's economic credibility, it further undermined the prime minister's rapidly crumbling authority and fueled calls for her to step down before her despairing Conservative Party forces her out.

Truss declined to attend the House of Commons to answer a question on the economy from the leader of the opposition, sending House of Commons leader Penny Mordaunt in her place. Mordaunt denied a lawmaker's suggestion that Truss was "cowering under her desk" to avoid scrutiny.

"The prime minister is not under a desk," Mordaunt said, words hardly likely to inspire confidence in the leader who only came to power last month.

Truss' spokesman said the prime minister and Hunt had jointly agreed on the economic changes. But Hunt told Conservative lawmakers that Truss "backed him to the hilt in making difficult decisions" —suggesting he has a free hand to make policy.

With Truss sitting silently beside him, Hunt told lawmakers that he was canceling Truss' plan to reduce the basic rate of income tax by 1 percentage point and most of her other libertarian economic policies. In a message aimed squarely at reassuring the financial markets, he said Britain was "a country that funds our promises and pays our debts."

"And when that is questioned, as it has been, this government will take the difficult decisions necessary to ensure there is trust and confidence in our national finances," Hunt said.

Hunt was appointed Friday after Truss fired his predecessor Kwasi Kwarteng, who spent less than six weeks in the Treasury job. Hunt is seeking to restore the Conservative government's credibility for sound fiscal policy after Truss and Kwarteng rushed out a plan for tax cuts without detailing how they would pay for them.

# Nation

## 6 who flipped Congress in 2018 face hurdles in 2022

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Moments after she flipped a longtime Republican congressional seat in 2018, Iowa Democrat Cindy Axne declared that "Washington doesn't have our back and we deserve a heck of a lot better."

Now seeking a third term in one of the most competitive House races, Axne is sounding a similar tone, telling voters she's delivered for Iowans "while Washington politicians bicker."

But Axne and other Democrats from the class of 2018 are campaigning in a much different political environment this year. The anxiety over Donald Trump's presidency that their party harnessed to flip more than 40 seats and regain the House majority has eased. In its place is frustration about the economy under President Joe Biden.

And many districts that were once competitive have been redrawn by Republican-dominated state legislatures to become more friendly to the GOP.

"It was a very different world," pollster John Zogby said of 2018. "Inflation's now where we haven't seen in 40 years and it affects everybody. And this is the party in power. With campaigns, you don't get to say, 'But it could have been' or 'But look at what the other guy did.'"

Many swing-district Democrats elected four years ago were buoyed by college-educated, suburban voters, women and young people shunning Trump. That means many defeats for second-term House Democrats could be read as opposition to Trump no longer motivating voters in the same way—even though the former president could seek the White House again in 2024.

Rep. Cindy Axne, D-Iowa, speaks during a roundtable discussion at the Elite Octane ethanol plant Nov. 9, 2021, in Atlantic, Iowa. AP

Trump continues to shape politics in a far more present sense, too. He's dominated the national Republican Party despite spreading lies about 2020's free and fair presidential election and now facing a House subpoena for helping incite the mob that attacked the U.S. Capitol last year.

Tom Perez, who headed the Democratic National Committee from 2017 until 2021, noted that midterm cycles are historically tough for the president's party and that—plus grim U.S. economic news—would normally raise the question "are Democrats going to get shellacked?"

Instead, Perez thinks many of the toughest congressional races remain close because of the strength of Democrats elected four years ago.

"All these folks from the Class of '18, what they have in common is they're really incredibly competent, accomplished and they've earned the trust of voters in their districts across the ideological spectrum," said Perez, co-chair of the super PAC American Bridge 21st Century. "That, to me, is why we have a chance here, not withstanding the headwinds of the moment, is that incredible combination of candidate quality contrasted with the extreme views of the people who are running against them."

In all, 66 new Democrats won House races in 2018, flipping 41 Republican seats. Their party gave back many of those gains in 2020, with Republicans taking 14 new seats. Those GOP victories included defeating a dozen Democrats elected to the House for the first time the previous cycle.

The Democratic House losses were overshadowed by Biden beating Trump. But this time, the ranks of the 2018 Democratic House class further dwindling may draw more attention —especially if it helps the GOP gain the net five seats it needs to reclaim the chamber's majority.

In addition to Axne, Democrats who may be vulnerable include Reps. Elissa Slotkin of Michigan, Tom Malinowski of New Jersey and Elaine Luria of Virginia. Another Virginia Democrat, Rep. Abigail Spanberger, as well as Reps. Jared Golden of Maine, Angie Craig of Minnesota and Sharice Davids of Kansas all also may face tough reelections.

"The question is, is it going to have similarities to '18 or not in the sense of democracy being on the ballot and a reaction to Trump," former California Democratic Rep. Harley Rouda, who was elected in 2018 but narrowly lost his reelection bid, said of next month's election. "Based on polling and the primaries, it doesn't seem like the voting public is holding Republicans responsible for the Big Lie."

Perez is more sanguine: "The midterm election is supposed to be a referendum on the president, but Donald Trump continues to inject himself" into the nation's politics.

House turnover is common among both parties. By early 2018, almost half of the 87 House Republicans newly elected when their party took control of the chamber during the 2010 tea party surge were gone. More lost that November.

Still, the 2018 class was notable as the largest influx of first-year House Democrats in four-plus decades, and the chamber's youngest and most diverse ever.

Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, said 2018 was also the largest class of new women elected to the House since 1992, with 35 Democrats and one Republican. But 2020 also saw 28 new women elected to Congress, and some were Republicans who defeated Democrats who'd won for the first time the last cycle.

## House panel: Trump's bills to Secret Service 'exorbitant'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Donald Trump's private company arranged for the Secret Service to pay for rooms at his properties in excess of government-approved rates at least 40 times, including two charges for more than $1,100 per room, per night, according to documents released Monday by a congressional committee.

The Secret Service was charged room rates of more than $800 per night at least 11 times when agents stayed at Mar-a-Lago in Florida, the Trump hotel in Washington, D.C., and other properties, the Democratic-led House Oversight Committee said. It noted that Trump made over 500 trips to his properties while president.

The "exorbitant" rates point to a possible "taxpayer-funded windfall for former President Trump's struggling businesses," Committee Chair Carolyn Maloney of New York wrote in a letter Monday to the Secret Service requesting more information.

The Secret Service said it had received the letter and was reviewing it.

The Trump Organization denied that the Secret Service charges were a problem and said it provided rooms and other services at cost, at big discounts or for free.

"The Trump Family is likely the first family in American history to have not profited off of the United States government," said Eric Trump in a statement. He added, "President Trump funded the vast majority of his campaign with hundreds of millions of dollars of his own money and turned away billions of dollars in real estate deals worldwide."

In total, the Trump Organization charged the agency responsible for protecting the president and his family at least $1.4 million, according to Secret Service records released by the committee. The committee said the total bill was likely higher because the panel only got records through September 2021 and payments for trips abroad were not included.

The former president has been repeatedly criticized by Democrats and government watchdogs for what they say were brazen attempts make money from taxpayer funds during his presidency.

In addition to money from the Secret Service when he and his family visited his clubs and hotels, Trump played host to foreign officials at his properties, also requiring lodging for accompanying agents. The president tried to arrange for his Trump National Doral Golf Club in Florida to be chosen as the venue for a Group of Seven meeting of global leaders, only to pull back after an outcry of about self dealing.

Among the documents released Monday was a bill tied to 2017 trip by Trump's oldest son, Don Jr., to the Trump International Hotel down the street from the White House. That resulted in a Secret Service room charge of $1,185 per night, more than five times the government-approved per diem rate, the committee said, though the agency is allowed to make exceptions.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Colorado county to send out mislabeled election ballots

**DENVER** (AP)—Nearly 110,000 voters in a southern Colorado county will be receiving general election ballots that were mistakenly labeled as primary election ballots, a blunder that has led the state's secretary of state to appoint a supervisor to oversee November's vote in a county that also had issues with ballots in its primary election. The misprint on ballots that are being sent out to voters in Pueblo County was on a tear-off tab and does not effect the "legal validity" or accuracy of the rest of the ballot, Secretary of State Jena Griswold's office said in a news release Monday. For that reason and because of the short time frame before the ballots were mailed, they will not be reprinted. It is the second time this year that the county has had problems with ballots.

### Details emerge about alleged serial killer's criminal past

**STOCKTON, Calif.** (AP)—A man suspected of killing six men and wounding a woman in a series of shootings in Northern California has a criminal history that includes traffic violations and convictions for drug crimes, authorities said Monday. Stockton police arrested Wesley Brownlee, 43, on Saturday after surveilling him as he drove through the streets of the city, armed with a handgun and possibly "out hunting" for another victim, police said. In January 1999, Brownlee had been sentenced to two years in prison in Alameda County, which encompasses the city of Oakland, for possessing and selling a controlled substance, the California corrections department said. He was released on parole in August 1999 after serving seven months. Brownlee was again convicted in Alameda County in December 2001 and sentenced to three years for the same crime. He was released to parole in May 2003 and discharged from parole three years later.

# Asia

## China's Xi calls for military growth

**BEIJING** (AP)—Chinese leader Xi Jinping on Sunday called for faster military development and announced no change in policies that have strained relations with Washington and tightened the ruling Communist Party's control over society and the economy.

China's most influential figure in decades spoke as the party opened a congress that was closely watched by companies, governments and the public for signs of official direction. It comes amid a painful slump in the world's second-largest economy and tension with Washington and Asian neighbors over trade, technology and security.

Party plans call for creating a prosperous society by mid-century and restoring China to its historic role as a political, economic and cultural leader. Beijing has expanded its presence abroad including a multibillion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative to build ports and other infrastructure across Asia and Africa, but economists warn reversing market-style reform could hamper growth.

"The next five years will be crucial," Xi said in a televised speech of one hour and 45 minutes to some 2,000 delegates in the cavernous Great Hall of the People. He repeatedly invoked his slogan of the "rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," which includes reviving the party's role as economic and social leader in a throwback to what Xi regards as a golden age after it took power in 1949.

The congress will install leaders for the next five years. Xi, 69, is expected to break with tradition and award himself a third five-year term as general secretary and promote allies who share his enthusiasm for party dominance.

The party's military wing, the People's Liberation Army, needs to "safeguard China's dignity and core interests," Xi said, referring to a list of territorial claims and other issues over which Beijing says it is ready to go to war.

China, with the world's second-largest military budget after the United States, is trying to extend its reach by developing ballistic missiles, aircraft carriers and overseas outposts.

"We will work faster to modernize military theory, personnel and weapons," Xi said. "We will enhance the military's strategic capabilities."

Xi cited his government's severe "zero-COVID" strategy, which has shut down major cities and disrupted travel and business, as a success. He gave no indication of a possible change despite public frustration with its rising cost.

The congress will name a Standing Committee, the ruling inner circle of power. The lineup will indicate who is likely to succeed Premier Li Keqiang as the top economic official and take other posts when China's ceremonial legislature meets next year.

Analysts are watching whether a slump that saw economic growth fall to below half of the official 5.5% annual target might force Xi to compromise and include supporters of market-style reform and entrepreneurs who generate wealth and jobs.

Xi gave no indication when he might step down.

During his decade in power, Xi's government has pursued an increasingly assertive foreign policy while tightening control at home on information and dissent.

Beijing is feuding with Japan, India and Southeast Asian governments over conflicting claims to the South China and East China Seas and a section of the Himalayas. The United States, Japan, Australia and India have formed a strategic group dubbed the Quad in response.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Japan leader sends offerings to controversial Tokyo shrine

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida donated religious offerings on Monday to a Tokyo shrine viewed by Chinese and Koreans as a symbol of Japanese wartime militarism, though he did not visit it in person.

Kishida donated Shinto "masakaki" ornaments for Yasukuni Shrine's biennial festival, as he has done since becoming prime minister last year. Victims of Japanese aggression during the first half of the 20th century, especially Chinese and Koreans, see the shrine as a symbol of Japanese militarism because it honors convicted war criminals among about 2.5 million war dead.

Critics also consider visits by Japanese Cabinet ministers and other officials to the shrine as a sign of a lack of remorse over the country's wartime atrocities. On Tuesday, a group of about 90 conservative lawmakers led by Ichiro Aisawa, a senior member of Kishida's governing party, visited the shrine together to pay tribute to the war dead. The group also included several deputy ministers in Kishida's Cabinet.

### Australia drops recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital

**CANBERRA, Australia** (AP)—Australia has reversed a previous government's recognition of West Jerusalem as Israel's capital, the foreign minister said Tuesday. The center-left Labor Party government Cabinet agreed to again recognize Tel Aviv as the capital and reaffirmed that Jerusalem's status must be resolved in peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, Foreign Minister Penny Wong said. Australia remained committed to a two-party solution to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, and "we will not support an approach that undermines this prospect," Wong said.

Israel's Prime Minister Yair Lapid expressed disappointment in Australia's changed position. "Jerusalem is the eternal undivided capital of Israel and nothing will change that," Lapid said in a statement. Israel's Foreign Ministry said it will summon the Australian ambassador over the issue. Former conservative Prime Minister Scott Morrison formally recognized West Jerusalem as Israel's capital in December 2018, although the Australian embassy remained in Tel Aviv. The change followed then-U.S. President Donald Trump's decision to shift the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. President Joe Biden has kept the embassy in Jerusalem as the U.S. steps back from its once-intense mediation between the Israelis and Palestinians, who have not held substantive peace talks in more than a decade. Wong described Morrison's move as out of step internationally and a "cynical play" to win a byelection in a Sydney locale with a large Jewish population. Morrison's Liberal Party ran Jewish candidate Dave Sharma who was defeated in the byelection but won the seat in the next general election. Morrison's government was elected out of office in May after nine years in power.

# World

## AMID RUSSIA WAR TENSIONS

## NATO begins nuclear exercises

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, left, speaks with U.S. Secretary for Defense Lloyd J. Austin III during a group photo of NATO defense ministers at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022. AP

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—NATO on Monday began its long-planned annual nuclear exercises in northwestern Europe as tensions simmer over the war in Ukraine and President Vladimir Putin's threat to use any means to defend Russian territory.

Fourteen of NATO's 30 member countries were due to take part in the exercises, which the military alliance said would involve around 60 aircraft including fighter jets and surveillance and refueling planes.

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**BRUSSELS (AP)—The European Union on Monday approved a military training mission in Europe for thousands of Ukrainian troops and a plan to provide around 500 million euros ($486 million) in extra funds to help buy weapons for the war-torn country.**

**The mission, which will have a headquarters in Brussels and be under the command of French naval officer Vice Adm. Herve Blejean, will initially run for two years with a budget of almost 107 million euros ($104 million).**

**EU headquarters said in a statement that the mission's aim is to allow the Ukrainian armed forces to "effectively conduct military operations," so that Ukraine can "defend its territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, effectively exercise its sovereignty and protect civilians."**

**It said that the EU will provide "individual, collective and specialized training." Countries that aren't part of the bloc will be allowed to take part in the training effort. The aim initially is to train about 15,000 Ukrainian troops, chiefly in Poland and Germany.**

**It's hoped that the mission will be up and running by mid-November.**

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The bulk of the war games will be held at least 1,000 kilometers (625 miles) from Russia's borders.

U.S. long-range B-52 bombers will also take part in the maneuvers, dubbed Steadfast Noon, which will run until Oct. 30. NATO is not permitting any media access.

NATO said that training flights will take place over Belgium, which is hosting Steadfast Noon this year, as well as over the North Sea and the United Kingdom. The exercises involve fighter jets capable of carrying nuclear warheads, but do not involve any live bombs.

The exercises were planned before Putin ordered Russian troops into Ukraine in February. Russia usually holds its own annual maneuvers around the same time, and NATO is expecting Moscow to exercise its nuclear forces sometime this month.

## Small town in southern Mexico hosts thousands of migrants

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—As migrants, especially Venezuelans, struggle to come to terms with a new U.S. policy discouraging border crossings, one small town in southern Mexico is unexpectedly playing host to thousands of migrants camped far from the U.S. border.

San Pedro Tapanatepec had 7,000 migrants, about 75% Venezuelans, when The Associated Press visited at the beginning of October. By Monday, Mayor Humberto Parrazales estimated the number had grown to 14,000. The AP could not independently verify that figure.

While many Venezuelans had planned to make their way to the U.S. border, the new U.S. policy says only those applying online, and arriving by air, will be admitted. Border crossers will simply be expelled. That leaves many camped out in five large tent shelters wondering what they'll do next.

They while away the daytime heat with just a few electric fans to keep the temperature down.

San Pedro Tapanatepec is obviously not where they wanted to wind up. The heat-drenched town in Oaxaca state is only about 180 miles (300 kilometers) from the border with Guatemala. Many of the migrants had thought they forever left Guatemala behind on the long trek that took many of them from the Darian Gap in Panama, through Central America, to Mexico.

Since August, the town has served as a way-station, where migrants would wait for a few days while Mexican immigration authorities issued them a sort of transit pass that gave them time to make it to the U.S. border.

But Parrazales said the flow of that paperwork has slowed down, leaving many more migrants waiting here in an impoverished town ill-equipped to play host to so many people.

# Good Housekeeping

By CATHY HOBBS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Looking for extra seating for a living space or to add a finishing touch to a bedroom? Why not consider adding a bench? Benches can provide both function and aesthetics to nearly any space.

From custom upholstery to millwork and those of different sizes, shapes and fabrics, benches can serve as the ideal accompaniment to nearly any room of the home.

Looking for opportunities to incorporate a bench into your space? Here are some do's and don'ts.

A velvet bench adds a finishing touch of elegance to this bedroom. HANDOUT/TNS

A bench helps to both frame this living space and provide additional seating. HANDOUT/TNS

## DO'S

- Do use a bench in an entry area. A bench can provide both function as well as an aesthetic design element to highlight an entry area.
- Do consider adding a bench as an additional seating element in a social area, such as a living or family room. Benches can especially work well in areas in which the desire is to not obscure or obstruct a view.
- Do consider a pair of benches areas where flexibility or having modular elements is a consideration.

## DON'TS

- Don't place benches in areas where they can obstruct room flow, windows or doorways.
- Don't compete with current furnishings. Choose a bench in a material or finish that is complementary to existing décor.
- Don't ignore the opportunity to create custom sized or produced benches to provide seating opportunities for odd sized or shaped areas or spaces.

A faux fur bench adds a surprise element of texture to this bedroom. HANDOUT/TNS

A long bench helps to add an industrial vibe to a loft space. HANDOUT/TNS

HANDOUT/TNS
A handcrafted bench adds an element of grandeur to this home entry.

# Adding a bench to your space

# Life & Style

## BTS members will serve in S. Korea military, regroup in '25

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—The members of K-pop band BTS will serve their mandatory military duties under South Korean law, their management company said Monday, effectively ending a debate on whether they should be granted exemptions because of their artistic accomplishments.

Big Hit Music said the band's oldest member, Jin, will revoke his request to delay his conscription at the end of the month and undertake the required steps. The six other BTS members also plan to serve in the military and are "looking forward to reconvening as a group again around 2025 following their service commitment," the company said in a statement.

No further information on the timing of their service was given. The band members performed together in Busan over the weekend in support of the city's EXPO bid, which will be their last concert as a group until they finish serving in the military, according to their label.

Hybe Corp., the parent company of Big Hit, said in an email to The Associated Press that each member of the band for the time being will focus on individual activities scheduled around their military service plans.

AP

Members of South Korean K-pop band BTS—from left, V, SUGA, JIN, Jung Kook, RM, Jimin, and j-hope—pose for photographers ahead of a press conference to introduce their new single "Butter" in Seoul, South Korea, May 21, 2021.

In a letter to shareholders, Hybe CEO Park Jiwon downplayed financial concerns related to the BTS hiatus, saying it has a broad enough lineup of artists, including other popular K-pop groups such as Le Sserafim and NewJeans and Western performers Justin Bieber and Ariana Grande.

"We have always been aware of the eventuality of mandatory military service, and we have long been making preparations to be ready for this moment," Park wrote. "In the short term, individual activities for several of the members are planned into the first half of 2023, and we have secured content in advance, which will enable BTS to continue their engagement with fans for the foreseeable future."

The announcement came after Lee Ki Sik, commissioner of the Military Manpower Administration, told lawmakers this month that it would be "desirable" for BTS members to fulfil their military duties to ensure fairness in the country's military service.

After enlisting, Jin and other BTS members will receive five weeks of combat training before being assigned to specific units and duties, according to officials at the Military Manpower Administration, who stressed that the singers would go under the same process as other South Korean men.

While South Korea's military for years had assigned enlisted entertainers to duties related to producing radio and TV material promoting the military, the "entertainment soldier" system was retired in 2013 following complaints over fairness.

Defense Minister Lee Jong-sup said in August that if BTS members join the military, they would likely be allowed to continue practicing and to join with the group for tours overseas.

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### 'Flash' actor Ezra Miller pleads not guilty to liquor theft

**BENNINGTON, Vt.** (AP)—Ezra Miller pleaded not guilty Monday to stealing bottles of liquor from a neighbor's home, one of a string of arrests and reports of erratic behavior by the "Flash" actor that stretch from Hawaii to Vermont. Miller, 30, appeared Monday with their lawyer remotely from Burlington, Vermont, for the arraignment in Bennington to felony burglary and petit larceny, a misdemeanor. They accepted the conditions that they not have any contact with the homeowner or go to the residence. "Ezra would like to acknowledge the love and support they have received from their family and friends, who continue to be a vital presence in their ongoing mental health," Miller's lawyer Lisa Shelkrot said by email.

### Kanye West to buy conservative social media platform Parler

The rapper formerly known as Kanye West is offering to buy right-wing friendly social network Parler shortly after getting locked out of Twitter and Instagram for antisemitic posts. The acquisition of Parler would give West, legally known as Ye, control of a social media platform and a new outlet for his opinions with no gatekeeper. The question is, who will listen? Even among the new breed of largely right-wing, far-right and libertarian social apps that purport to support free speech by having looser rules and moderation, Parler's user base is tiny. ***(AP)***

### Novel by Sri Lanka's Shehan Karunatilaka wins Booker Prize

**LONDON** (AP)—Writer Shehan Karunatilaka won the prestigious Booker Prize for fiction on Monday for "The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida," a satirical "afterlife noir" set during Sri Lanka's brutal civil war. Karunatilaka, one of Sri Lanka's leading authors, won the 50,000 pound ($57,000) award for his second novel. The 47-year-old, who has also written journalism, children's books, screenplays and rock songs, is the second Sri Lanka-born Booker Prize winner, after Michael Ondaatje, who took the trophy in 1992 for "The English Patient." Karunatilaka received the award from Camilla, Britain's queen consort, during a ceremony at London's Roundhouse concert hall.

## Boyfriend less than thrilled with woman's spiritual adviser

**DEAR ABBY:** My longtime girlfriend has male friends who visit her during the day while I am gone for about a week each month. I know them, they are interesting people, and I'm OK with that. She now has a friend who is a faith-based healer—something she gravitates toward.

He lives three hours away, and when he visits, he stays overnight. I met him recently. He's there now while I am two states away. He does hands-on healing with her and other people she introduces him to. He goes in the water every day of the year, and now my girlfriend does, too, usually very early in the morning. Presumably, they do this together while I am away. Maybe he goes in naked; she would consider that natural.

She told me to not worry about the overnights and the hands-on healing because "he is a man of God." I told her it doesn't make any difference. He is divorced and single. Am I being a dope to let this happen without making a strong objection?

**MYSTIFIED IN MAINE**

**DEAR MYSTIFIED: Because this woman is your "longtime" girlfriend, you have the right to make your feelings about the arrangement known. If you weren't comfortable with the idea of her entertaining a divorced single man overnight in your absence, you should have said so from the beginning. Whether the two of them are sexually involved is beside the point. If she cares about your feelings, she should respect them. However, if she doesn't, then it may be time for you to find another girlfriend.**

■■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** My ex-husband and I met in 2006, had a beautiful daughter in 2007, married in 2010 and divorced in 2013. He was honest with me about being a recovering addict (drugs and alcohol) when we met. Our first few years together were great. However, he fell off the wagon after the wedding and started using drugs and drinking again. It quickly spiraled out of control, and I refused to raise our young daughter in that environment.

He continued in his addictions for seven years after our divorce. He became clean and sober again in 2019, has rekindled his strained relationship with our daughter and is attempting to rekindle ours as well. We are currently co-parenting and call each other friends, but he wants more.

I have forgiven him for the past hurt and betrayals, but I can't forget the pain. I can't help but be afraid that if I let him back into my life romantically, history will repeat itself. Should I let go of the past and give him another chance, or continue to co-parent and keep him in the friend zone?

**FORGIVEN BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

**DEAR FORGIVEN: I suggest you attend some meetings of Nar-Anon (nar-anon.org), an organization founded to help friends and family affected by someone else's addiction. If you do, it will give you added insight. Addicts in recovery have been known to fall off the wagon, as you well know. My question for you is, are you strong enough to go through it again should the need arise? No one else can answer that question for you.**

■■■■

*Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
*UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE*

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

TO BARK, OR NOT TO BARK: THAT IS THE QUESTION
Bark! Bark! Bark! Bark!
I'VE BEEN READING SHAKESPEARE
METHINK'ST THOU ART A GENERAL OFFENCE
JIM DAVIS 10-19

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OOOOOO! AAAAAA! CLANK! ROAR!! SIGH.
THIS NEW "SCARY SOUNDS MIX" IS AMAZING!
KaCHUNK EEEEEEEeeeee
WHAT'S THAT ONE?
CREAKY MAILBOX OPENING WITH REPORT CARD INSIDE"
TURN IT OFF! TURN IT OFF!

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

Does it seem like "the Bold and the Neutered" is stretching out this plotline a bit?
NOT AT ALL.
I MEAN, REX LEFT QUEENIE TWO WEEKS AGO.
...AND SINCE THEN, every episode is just Queenie staring at the door.
THIS IS RIVETING STUFF!!

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

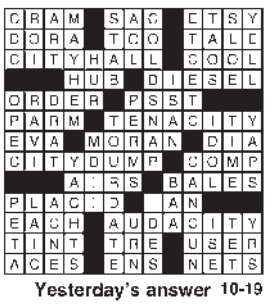
**ACROSS**

1 Settled the bill
5 Occupation, for short
8 Kilt wearer
12 Writer Rice
13 Parisian pal
14 Drive- — window
15 Train line's end
17 Reddish horse
18 Sea critter
19 Paper fastener
21 Musical finale
24 Mag. staff
25 Faction
28 "Three Sisters" sister
30 Showtime rival
33 Lyricist Gershwin
34 Screams
35 Scull tool
36 Ninny
37 Birthright barterer
38 Quarrel
39 FDR follower
41 "Amen!"
43 Milk-related
46 Elevates
50 Off-white
51 Sandal type
54 Loads
55 Eggs
56 Actress Hatcher
57 Tries the wine
58 Fall from grace
59 Viewed

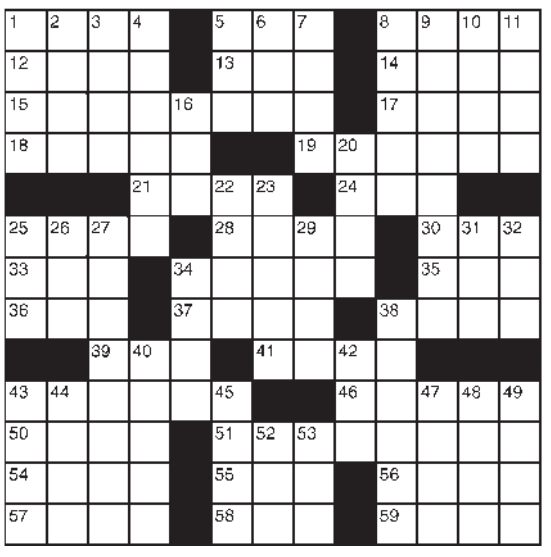
**DOWN**

1 — Alto
2 Body sci.
3 "Meet Me — Louis"
4 Sense
5 Cave flier
6 Texter's "I think"
7 Moves rapidly
8 Pricey violin
9 Car-dismantling garage
10 Spoken
11 Melody
16 Hit show letters
20 Herbal drinks
22 Accomplishes
23 Relieve
25 "Chandelier" singer
26 Hosp. areas
27 Corn or cotton, e.g.
29 Adhesive
31 Sheepish remark
32 Leftover bit
34 Bigfoot's cousin
38 Stints at the factory
40 Dazzles
42 Swiss peak
43 Meadows
44 Play opener
45 Fiscal execs
47 Run off
48 Ripped
49 Whirl
52 Roman 56
53 Author Fleming

Solution time: 23 mins.



Yesterday's answer 10-19



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Gillian Jacobs, 40; Chris Kattan, 52; Jon Favreau, 56; John Lithgow, 77.

**Happy Birthday:** Take nothing for granted. Hard work, a passionate attitude and an exhausting schedule will keep you healthy, wealthy and wise. Be the first to make a move and take command. Follow your instincts and heart, and don't stop until you are satisfied with the results. Make this a year to remember, filled with enthusiasm, love, growth and change. Aim for personal security. Your numbers are 5, 12, 26, 28, 30, 36, 44.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Apply energy where it counts, and you'll surpass your expectations. Mix business with pleasure and win favors that help you reach your goal. By lending a helping hand, you'll receive what you need to advance. Share plans and love with someone special. ✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* If you want to change, don't just sit there; act. Getting involved in emotional mayhem will slow you down and cause you to miss out on something special. Don't make promises or get involved with someone without researching or doing a background check. ✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* You'll feel passionate about making a difference. Step into the spotlight and offer suggestions that benefit your community, family or work environment. Keeping the people around you happy will encourage higher profits and better relationships. Make honesty a priority. ✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Be part of the solution, not the problem. Observing is in your best interest. Seize the moment so as to immerse yourself in what's trending, who's doing what and how you can take advantage of the situations unfolding around you. Avoid emotional spending. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* You've got more leverage than you realize. Voice your opinion and act. Following through will make your words powerful and difficult for others to deny. Look for an opportunity and it will become apparent what you can and should do next. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A disciplined attitude will bring the highest return. Refuse to let anyone interfere in your progress. Keep your eye on the ball and push for the changes that will make your life easier and your plans feasible. Sidestep anyone looking for a fight. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Put your energy where it counts and help someone or something that concerns you. An honest assessment of a situation will offer ideas or solutions that are quick to implement and difficult for others to reject. Be the one to make a difference. ✪✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Expect others to put demands on you. Be prepared to counter any situation you face with a better plan. Staying one step ahead of the crowd will give you the edge to succeed. Be secretive until you are ready to launch. ✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Taking a short trip or attending a meeting or conference will help you understand where you can make the most significant leap forward. Ask an established friend or relative for input regarding a topic of interest that perplexes you. ✪✪✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Tread carefully. You'll meet with opposition if you are too vocal or aggressive in your search for answers. Do your due diligence and get the facts before you take on a controversial issue that can cause upset or affect your status quo. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put on your thinking cap and you'll find a way to overcome whatever you encounter. A moneymaking opportunity will lead to prosperity if you take the initiative and invest in your future. Contracts, new beginnings and romance are favored. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Pitch in and help, but don't lecture, complain or criticize others. A kind and empathetic offer will possess a better outcome and no hard feelings. Think before you do or say something you regret. Home improvement is encouraged. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are appealing, prompt and efficient. You are original and spirited.

*✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 9 | | 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| 7 | | | | | 3 | | | |
| 8 | | | | | 6 | | | |
| 9 | 8 | 5 | | | 1 | 6 | 4 | |
| | | | 5 | | | | | 1 |
| | | | 2 | | | | | 9 |
| | | | 3 | | | | | 8 |
| | | | 6 | | | | | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 2 | | | 4 | 1 | 9 | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesturday Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 8 |
| 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 7 |
| 7 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 |

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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**BANNER ADS** Solution: 7 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | S | L | A | C | I | T | R | E | V | R | E | S | D | S |
| P | N | P | E | C | N | E | I | D | U | A | T | N | G | H |
| E | U | I | O | E | D | D | I | S | P | L | A | Y | N | P |
| N | E | B | M | N | W | R | C | O | E | R | R | Y | I | A |
| O | G | Y | L | A | S | I | A | G | B | B | G | X | T | R |
| H | A | N | O | I | T | O | M | O | R | P | E | O | E | G |
| P | S | V | N | A | S | I | R | L | B | L | T | R | K | O |
| T | S | I | T | O | B | H | O | E | S | L | F | P | R | T |
| R | E | S | A | C | T | I | O | N | D | O | L | V | A | O |
| A | M | I | T | S | D | T | D | E | Ⓚ | A | A | I | M | H |
| M | I | T | D | A | E | L | U | D | Ⓝ | D | H | D | B | P |
| S | C | O | S | T | G | T | F | B | Ⓘ | I | E | E | A | A |
| P | U | R | C | H | A | S | E | S | Ⓛ | N | L | O | R | G |
| S | K | S | A | T | M | M | E | D | I | A | G | N | S | E |
| G | R | A | P | H | I | C | S | R | A | L | U | P | O | P |

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Action, Animation, Audience, Bars, Bidding, Billboard, Brand, Button, Cost, Display, Fees, Graphics, Half, Imaged, Lead, Link, Load, Logos, Marketing, Media, Message, Online, Page, Payment, Photographs, Pixels, Popular, Promotion, Proxy, Publish, Purchases, Server, Smartphone, Sponsored, Static, Tags, Target, Tasks, Vertical, Video, Visitors

**Yesterday's Answer: Wimbledon**

**Treasuries 27, 29, 31 and 33 through 49** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

# Late turnover, Hopkins 4th field goal gives Chargers OT win

**INGLEWOOD, Calif.** (AP)—Justin Herbert didn't throw a touchdown pass for the first time in 27 games. For once, it didn't matter thanks to the Los Angeles Chargers special teams.

Dustin Hopkins kicked four field goals, including a 39-yarder with 2:38 remaining in overtime, as the Chargers rallied for a 19-16 victory over the Denver Broncos.

Hopkins, who injured a hamstring during the first half, grimaced as he kicked the ball and fell to the ground before being picked up by teammates. The ninth-year kicker was inactive for last week's game against Cleveland due to a quadriceps injury.

Hopkins' heroics were set up when Deane Leonard recovered a muffed punt at the Denver 28-yard line.

Herbert, who is still recovering from fractured rib cartilage from a hit one month ago, appreciated Hopkins being able to gut it out.

"We've got so much respect for him. For him to go out there and play and put up with some pain like that, it was great to see," said Herbert, whose 56 attempts without a TD pass is an NFL record in a win.

Coach Brandon Staley said Hopkins' hamstring kind of cramped up early, but started to loosen up during the second half.

AP

Los Angeles Chargers place kicker Dustin Hopkins (6) kicks the game winning field goal as Denver Broncos wide receiver Montrell Washington (12) tries to block it during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, in Inglewood, Calif.

"You can't say enough about him hanging in there," Staley said. "At the end we had no choice. We were going to kick no matter what."

Hopkins has five games with four or more field goals. It is also the first OT game-winner of his career.

"I was trying to focus on a little backswing and just get through the ball. And that was it," Hopkins said. "I wasn't thinking about the circumstance or anything like that."

The Chargers have won three straight to improve to 4-2. They are tied with Kansas City atop the AFC West. It is the first time in franchise history they have rallied from a double-digit deficit at the end of the first quarter to win.

Los Angeles was down 14-3 at the end of the first quarter last Sunday in Cleveland before pulling out a 30-28 win.

This game appeared to be headed toward a tie until Denver's Montrell Washington muffed JK Scott's punt at the Broncos 32-yard line. It was recovered by Deane Leonard at the 28.

Washington called for a fair catch, but Denver safety P.J. Locke didn't hear Washington and tried to block Ja'Sir Taylor when Locke bumped into Washington.

"I just saw the returner running up, he was kind of relaxed, and then his teammate was just standing there," Taylor said. "At first, if you go back, I paused a little bit, and then it just clicked in my head like, 'Oh, just throw him onto the returner.' And it happened, and the ball came out."

Herbert, who completed 37 of 57 for 238 yards and an interception, passed to Mike Williams for 9 yards on third-and-12 from the Denver 30 to get Hopkins closer.

Russell Wilson was 15 of 28 for 188 yards and a touchdown for the Broncos (2-4), who dropped a game in overtime for the second straight week.

"We felt like we could have won the game, and then we had the fluke play at the end. It didn't work out, but everybody is together," Wilson said.

Denver jumped out to a 10-0 lead with scores on the first two drives. Brandon McManus was good from 51 yards midway through the first, and Wilson found a wide-open Greg Dulcich for a 39-yard touchdown with 1:49 remaining in the quarter.

Dulcich's TD was the first of his career and the Broncos' first in 87 minutes, 54 seconds.

The Chargers answered on their ensuing possession, putting together a 15-play, 82-yard drive that was capped by Austin Ekeler's 6-yard run up the middle with his linemen helping him get across the goal line.

Following a Denver three-and-out, Los Angeles evened it at 10 on Hopkins' 37-yard field goal with 53 seconds remaining in the half.

The Broncos were not content to run out the clock though. KJ Hamler hauled in a 47-yard pass to the LA 28. Denver got to the Chargers 9 before McManus was good from 27 yards.

The Chargers tied it on their first drive of the third quarter when Hopkins split the uprights from 31 yards.

The teams traded field goals in the fourth quarter. McManus was good from 48 yards after Baron Browning picked off Herbert. The Chargers answered with Hopkins making it from 35.

"This is very disappointing," Denver coach Nathaniel Hackett said. "We had some opportunities there, and we've got to execute at a higher level. We've got to come up with some better plays."

Herbert had a 26-game TD pass streak snapped. It was the third-best run in franchise history and second-longest active streak in the league.

The teams combined for 19 penalties and a season-high 240 yards. The Broncos were flagged 10 times for 151 yards, the 24th time since 2000 a team has drawn more than 150 penalty yards, according to TruMedia.

The Broncos had four pass interference calls for 87 yards.

Ron Torbert's crew had been conservative coming into the game. In their four previous contests this season, they averaged 12 flags for 92.8 yards.

Wilson's first nine completions were to nine different players. According to the NFL, he is the first player to complete his first nine attempts of a game to nine different receivers since at least 1991, when play-by-play data was first recorded.

# NFL owners unlikely to vote on Dan Snyder, roughing calls

**By ROB MAADDI**
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Concussions, roughing-the-passer penalties and Washington owner Dan Snyder have dominated headlines six weeks into an NFL season that's featured plenty of comebacks and close games, too.

There isn't expected to be any significant news on any of the hot topics when NFL owners meet in New York on Tuesday.

Snyder's ownership of the Commanders became a big issue again last week when ESPN reported, citing anonymous sources, that he has hired private investigators and told people he has enough information to expose fellow owners and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell.

The Commanders denied the contents of the report, calling it "categorically untrue" and "clearly part of a well-funded, two-year campaign to coerce the sale of the team, which will continue to be unsuccessful."

Snyder's status has been widely debated for years amid several scandals and investigations into workplace conduct in Washington. There are no plans to vote on Snyder's ownership because the league's investigation, conducted by attorney Mary Jo White, into allegations of sexual misconduct and financial impropriety is still ongoing.

However, it's expected Snyder's name will come up among owners.

Tanya Snyder, the team's co-CEO, and Commanders President Jason Wright are scheduled to represent the team at the meetings, a person familiar with the plans told The Associated Press on Monday. The person, speaking on condition of anonymity because the conversations are private, said there has been no change to Dan Snyder's status since the league announced in July 2021 that he would be turning over day-to-day operations to his wife.

The Commanders' attorneys said last week Snyder "is no longer under any NFL restriction related to his involvement with the team." The person familiar with the league's thinking told the AP that Goodell will address the matter with Snyder once the league-commissioned investigation is completed. White hasn't informed the league of a timeline to submit a report, though it's anticipated she's nearing the end of the investigation, the person said.

Snyder and the organization are also currently the subject of an ongoing investigation by the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Snyder has owned the team since 1999. Removing him would be unprecedented and requires 24 votes from the other owners.

Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross also won't attend Tuesday's meeting. His suspension for tampering with Tom Brady and Sean Payton was lifted on Monday, but he is not allowed to attend any league meetings prior next spring.

The NFL and NFL Players Association already revised their concussion protocol following a joint investigation into the procedures after Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa suffered what was described as a back injury against the Buffalo Bills last month.

The league faced heavy criticism and scrutiny after Tagovailoa was carted off the field by stretcher just four days after stumbling off the field and being allowed to return to play.

A pair of disputed roughing-the-passer penalties in Week 5 frustrated defensive players and had players, coaches and fans questioning what constitutes a legal hit. But the league doesn't plan to soften its interpretation of the rule and will continue to allow referees to err on the side of caution in order to protect quarterbacks.

"We support those calls," league executive Troy Vincent said on ESPN before Sunday's games.

Among the topics on the agenda for the meetings are updates on international play and preseason injury trends, including use of Guardian caps to prevent concussions.

The owners are also expected to vote on the $790 million St. Louis relocation settlement. Last November, the NFL and Los Angeles Rams owner Stan Kroenke agreed to pay $790 million to settle a lawsuit filed by St. Louis interests over the team's relocation to Los Angeles. The vote would determine how much Kroenke pays and how much would be covered by owners of the league's 31 other teams.

# NBA '22-23: Warriors out to defend, amid tons of contenders

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

AP

Golden State Warriors coach Steve Kerr talks to referee Ed Malloy (14) after a foul was called on center James Wiseman during the first half of the team's NBA preseason basketball game against the Portland Trail Blazers in San Francisco, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022.

Golden State coach Steve Kerr went into last season uncertain if his club would be good enough to contend for another NBA championship.

He got his answer. He's getting another ring.

And now, the Warriors will try to do it all again.

The NBA's 77th season starts Tuesday night, the opening doubleheader — Philadelphia at Eastern Conference champion Boston, then the Los Angeles Lakers at the Warriors — wasting no time in putting title contenders on display. Commissioner Adam Silver will be in San Francisco for Golden State's ring night as the Warriors begin their quest for what would be a fifth championship in nine seasons.

"We're back in it," Kerr said. "But there's a lot of teams that are right in it, and the league is super competitive. I think the West has gotten even stronger. There's a lot of competition out there. And so, we're one of the teams that is in the mix and that's exciting. But we have to start over. It doesn't just automatically happen from one year to the next, so we've got a lot of work."

There is no shortage of contenders for the Warriors to fend off and no shortage of teams that made big moves with hopes of being the last team standing this season. Minnesota traded with Utah for Rudy Gobert and Cleveland traded with Utah for Donovan Mitchell; the Timberwolves and Cavaliers are trying to reach the league's upper echelon, and the Jazz are starting on a new path after a few years of being good but nowhere near good enough.

"There's a very high level of competition this year," Gobert said. "I think a lot of teams got better."

Some teams might have gotten better by not doing something. Kevin Durant asked for a trade out of Brooklyn; cooler heads prevailed, and Durant remained with the Nets, who also should have Kyrie Irving — whose decision not to get vaccinated against COVID-19 means he'll be tested often but won't keep him off the floor — for many more games this season than the 29 he was limited to last season. And Ben Simmons, who didn't play at all last season, will be out there with Durant and Irving as well.

Durant's reason for asking for a trade was simple: "I was more so worried about how we're approaching every day as a basketball team," he said. Those concerns were addressed, and in Brooklyn he stayed, with the Nets expected to joust with Boston, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Miami and probably others in a very deep Eastern Conference.

"A lot of teams have a legitimate shot," said Hall of Famer Chris Mullin, now a television analyst for the Warriors. "I think that's really good for the league. A lot of teams have two and three stars, and if they get their chemistry right, they stay healthy, they figure out the right kind of basketball to complement their talent, then there are a lot of teams with legitimate aspirations."

LeBron James enters this season 1,325 points behind Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for the NBA's all-time scoring lead, and the Lakers — if they can stay healthy — figure to be much better than the 33-49 record they posted last year. The Los Angeles Clippers have Kawhi Leonard back after a year off with a knee injury, just as the Denver Nuggets get Jamal Murray back from knee rehabilitation to join forces again with two-time reigning MVP Nikola Jokic. Phoenix has a core that has won more games than any team in the NBA over the last two regular seasons, though it enters this season with its franchise for sale as a result of owner Robert Sarver's conduct.

All those clubs, and a few others, plan on contending.

"Hopefully, we can take another step," Leonard said. "That's all I can hope for."

The Celtics and Warriors took more steps than anyone last season, getting to the finals.

And then, they took steps back.

Golden State's preseason was turned on its head when Warriors forward Draymond Green punched guard Jordan Poole during a practice session, a story that got immeasurably worse when video of the incident was leaked to TMZ. Green was fined by the Warriors, took a few days away from the team, then returned last week.

That all came a few weeks after the Celtics suspended coach Ime Udoka until June 30 after an investigation found he broke multiple team rules and was involved in an improper relationship with a female member of the organization.

Udoka, a feel-good story after going to the finals in his first year as a head coach, is being replaced by 34-year-old Joe Mazzulla for this season as the Celtics chase an 18th championship, one that would break a tie with the Lakers for the most in NBA history.

"The great thing about this organization, the players that we have, and the season last year is we have a formula for what we know we need to do in order to get better every single day and get back to where we want to get to," Mazzulla said. "As much as we can focus on that, we'll be in good shape."

There will be surprises. There will be injuries, probably some trades, maybe some firings along the way and presumably even some tanking — whether teams call it that or not — with hopes of enhancing their odds of winning the lottery and being able to draft French teenage phenom Victor Wembanyama next June.

Other teams, like the Warriors, also are thinking about June. Not for the draft, but because that's when a champion will be crowned.

"We are on hopefully another nine-month journey," said Warriors guard Stephen Curry, the reigning NBA Finals MVP. "And it's exciting. We're blessed to play this game at the highest level and understand that we still have an opportunity to win a couple more championships."

# Source: Warriors, Poole finalizing $140M, 4-year deal

Jordan Poole and the Golden State Warriors are finalizing a four-year, $140 million extension, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said Saturday.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the contract has not been signed. ESPN first reported the agreement.

Poole is entering his fourth season with the Warriors and has seen his numbers improve each season. The shooting guard out of Michigan averaged 8.5 points on 33% shooting as a rookie, then averaged 12.0 points on 43% shooting in 2020-21 and increased his average again to 18.5 points on 45% shooting last season when he helped the Warriors win the NBA title.

Poole also made 211 3-pointers last season, the second-most on the Warriors behind all-time 3-point king Stephen Curry and tied for 15th-most in the NBA.

The extension will kick in for the 2023-24 season. Poole will make about $4 million this season.

The new deal also ends a tumultuous preseason for Poole and the Warriors.

Poole was punched by Warriors teammate Draymond Green during an altercation in practice on Oct. 5. Video of the incident was leaked to TMZ days later. Green took a few days away from the team and ultimately was fined, but returned to the club for the preseason finale and shared a pregame handshake with Poole before the last exhibition game on Friday night.

The Warriors didn't hide their anger with Green when the story broke, and also didn't hide their support for Poole — raving about what the 23-year-old has brought, and evidently will continue bringing, to the team.

"He's someone we're going to rely on for many years to come and that's exciting," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said earlier this week. "We've got a lot of good young players, but Jordan is by far the most advanced."

Poole stepped into the starting role for Curry — who was coming back from injury — for the first four games of last season's playoffs and immediately impressed. Poole had 30, 29 and 27 points, respectively, in the first three games of the first-round matchup against the Denver Nuggets as the Warriors ran out to a 3-0 lead in that series.

Poole wound up averaging 17.0 points in the playoffs on 51% shooting. He was fourth in the NBA's most improved player balloting last season.

## NBA BRIEFS

### Hawks commit to Hunter with $95 million, 4-year extension

**ATLANTA** (AP)—The Atlanta Hawks have committed to De'Andre Hunter as one of the key players on a team looking to return to championship contention, signing the small forward to a $95 million, four-year extension.

The new deal begins with the 2023-24 season. Hunter could have become a restricted free agent following this season.

The Hawks confirmed the deal, first reported by ESPN, on Monday night.

The Hawks are looking for a return to their 2020-21 form, when they advanced to the Eastern Conference finals before losing to the Milwaukee Bucks.

The 6-foot-7 Hunter averaged 13.4 points, 3.3 rebounds and 1.3 assists last season, when the Hawks needed two wins in the play-in tournament to return to the playoffs. They lost to the Miami Heat in the first round.

### Grizzlies sign F/C Brandon Clarke to contract extension

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.** (AP)—The Memphis Grizzlies signed forward/center Brandon Clarke to a multiyear contract extension Sunday.

Clarke just finished his third season with the Grizzlies, averaging 10.4 points in 64 games, all but one off the bench. He shot 64.4% from the field in about 20 minutes per game.

Clarke is the Grizzlies' career leader in field goal percentage at 61.3% and helped them win 56 games and their first division title last season by sparking a bench unit that led the NBA in rebounds and blocks.

The 6-foot-7 Clarke played at Gonzaga before being drafted 21st overall in 2019 by Oklahoma City, which dealt his rights to the Grizzlies.

### Hornets' LaMelo Ball unlikely to play in season opener

**CHARLOTTE, N.C.** (AP)—Charlotte Hornets All-Star point guard LaMelo Ball is expected to miss Wednesday night's season opener against the San Antonio Spurs with a sprained left ankle.

Hornets coach Steve Clifford said Monday that Ball is doubtful for the game and is uncertain if he will make the trip out West.

"He wasn't able to do anything today," Clifford said. "He is doing extra rehab and everything he can, but I would say very doubtful."

Ball was injured in the Hornets' preseason loss to the Washington Wizards on Oct. 10 when Anthony Gill stepped on his foot. Ball hasn't practiced or played since.

Clifford said there is no timetable for Ball's return.

If Ball doesn't play, Terry Rozier would start at point guard alongside Kelly Oubre Jr., Gordon Hayward, P.J. Washington and Mason Plumlee, Clifford said.

# Marianas Health Golf Classic set for Oct. 29

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Event sponsor Hyatt Regency Saipan donates a restaurant gift certificate to the Marianas Health Golf Classic

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bronze sponsor Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan donates a hotel stay gift certificate to the Marianas Health Golf Classic

**By LEIGH GASES**
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CORRESPONDENT

Marianas Health Services will host their first ever Marianas Health Golf Classic set for Oct. 29 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, for a morning and afternoon tee time at the west course.

The fundraising event provides financial support for the Antonio T. Lizama Scholarship Program, which awards local students seeking higher education in the healthcare field.

2022 Marianas Health GOLF CLASSIC

Men's and women's categories of different skill levels will have a chance at cash prizes for low gross: first place, $2,000; second place, $1,000; and third place, $500. Cash prizes for double peoria: first place, $1,000; second place, $500; and third place, $250.

Optional play contests are also available for a chance to win $250 for closest to the pin and $300 for longest drive. Golfers will also enjoy a complimentary ditty bag, on-course refreshments, and end the day with the awards banquet at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort poolside.

Morning showtime is at 6am followed by shotgun at 7am. Afternoon showtime will begin at 12:30pm and shotgun will start at 1:30pm.

The registration fee is $280/per team ($300 after Oct 14). Registration fee includes optional play. Tickets for amazing raffle prizes are available for purchase throughout the tournament. Registration closes on Oct. 20, 2022, at 12pm.

The awards banquet and raffle draw will be at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort Poolside, starting at 6:30pm.

Registration forms are available at the Marianas Health Building in Oleai and at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort front desk.

For more information and if you are interested in partnering up as a sponsor or would like to help the tournament as a volunteer, visit the Marianas Health office or contact Kovanni Cabrera at (670) 233-4646/ kovanni_c@marianashealth.com.

The 2022 Marianas Health Golf Classic will not be possible without the generous contribution of the following sponsors: hole-in-one sponsors Joeten Motors, Pacifica Insurance, Sagan Hinemlo Family Clinic, gold sponsors Marpac, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, silver sponsor *Marianas Variety*, bronze sponsors Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, KWAW, Latte Built, and event sponsors All Star Sporting Goods, Century Insurance Company, D&Q, First Hawaiian Bank, Hyatt Regency Saipan, McDonald's of Saipan, Marianas Health Home Care & Hospice, Allied Medical Supplies, LLC., Pacific Wellness Center, H.A.F.A. Initiative, Samson Peace & Order Trading Corp., RNV Construction, Herman's Bakery, and Cargo Express.

# Docomo Pacific sponsors Guam's first kids-only jiu-jitsu tournament

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Jayronne Gandaoli, founder and event coordinator, Pacific Grappling Events; Jared Roberto, public relations manager, Docomo Pacific; Victoria Quichocho, Prepaid Sales lead, Docomo Pacific; and Benjamin Estampador, Reseller Sales lead, Docomo Pacific.

**TAMUNING, Guam**—Docomo Pacific, the regional leader in innovation, telecommunications, and entertainment, sponsors Påtgon, Guam's first kids-only Jiu-Jitsu tournament that takes place on Saturday, Oct. 22, at the UOG Calvo Field House.

Pacific Grappling Events proudly hosts Guam's first kids only Gi and no Gi Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Tournament. The event will feature kids between the ages of 4 and 17. Divisions are determined by belt ranks (white and blue) and weight. Registration ends Wednesday, Octo. 19, and interested participants can sign up online at: https://smoothcomp.com/en/event/7997.

"Påtgon Jiu-Jitsu gives our future generations more opportunity to compete and gain experience. Being a product of Guam's Youth Jiu-Jitsu, starting at 11 years old with the privilege to travel for competition, and now a mother of 3 children are the reasons that drove me to start this organization. To give back to our community, I wanted to bring that same experience without having our Jiu-Jitsu practitioners pay thousands of dollars. Thank you, Docomo Pacific, for supporting the Påtgon Jiu-Jitsu Tournament #ForTheKids," said Jayronne Gandaoli, founder and event coordinator of Pacific Grappling Events

Docomo Pacific is proud to be a part of this exciting event that will showcase all our island's next generations' hard work and training. This event is open to the public. Admission is $5 for adults and $3 for children ages 6-12.

To learn more about Pacific Grappling Events and tournament information, visit their webpage at https://patgonjiujitsu.weebly.com or email pacificgrappling@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

## ANOTHER

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ly dominated and was super delighted at taking three gold medals home," he said.

The proud parent said after the tournament in Myrtle Beach, a lot of parents approached them about Nickole's training regimen.

"We met people from Guam and other Pacific Islands that gave a lot of good comments on Nickole's performance. We were really happy that people noticed her hard work. Some said that she was really inspiring to watch."

## QUEENS

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dropped to 4-3.

### 670 Babes 13, Lady Eagles 9

The 670 Babes were just a few steps ahead of the Lady Eagles as they defeated them, 13-9 in the first game of the day.

Both teams were evenly matched in the first inning as no one was able to score a run, but the momentum picked up in the second inning as the Babes put up four on the board.

The Babes continued their momentum in the next couple of innings as they scored seven more, with five runs made by the Eagles to make it 11-5. The Eagles tried to bounce back and catch up but the Babes were already too far ahead as the Babes scored two more in the last inning, with the Eagles only scoring four more runs to come up short by four runs.

With this win, the Babes improved to 3-5, while the Eagles dipped a bit at 5-4.

The results of the men's division games will come out in the next editions of *Saipan Tribune.*

## MP

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footing until another shot was made by MPU's Moshe Sikkel 22 minutes in for a lead of 2-0.

Taiga Namai-Scoggins made a run for a hat-trick as he scored his first goal at the end of the first half and continued his conquest 34 minutes into the second half. He completed his third goal four minutes later. At this point, the score was now 5-2 as TanHoldings' Julio Monserrat managed to score their only two goals.

The final goal for the game was made by Sikkel in the 41st minute for a final score of 6-2.

### MP United Blue 2, Matansa 0

The game's only two goals were made by Stephen Yeom—one in the first half's 18th minute, and the other in the second half's 40th minute.

### U13 GIRLS
### Kanoa FC Team-1 5, TanHoldings FC Team-2 2

Kanoa FC Team 1 defeated TanHoldings FC Team 2.

Kanoa's Aubrey White and Elikristiana Iglesias scored two goals each, while Faith Arriola and Beatrice scored one each.

TanHoldings came up short as only Elyza Brillo scored the team's two goals.

### Southern United FC Team-1 11, Kanoa FC Team-2 1

The lone score for Kanoa FC Team 1 was made by Cali Jade Cabrera in the second half. While on the opposite end, Southern United kept the goals coming with seven made in the first half and four made in the second half.

Rosie Jean Saralu was the leading scorer with six goals, while Brianne Echalico had three and Selena Atalig made a couple.

### Matansa FC 7, Southern United FC Team-2 0

The Matansa girls quieted Southern United FC Team 2.

Four of the goals were scored by Alyssa Borlongan, while the three goals were made by Hailey Benavente.

### TanHoldings FC Team-1 2, MPU FC 1

It was a quiet match as TanHoldings FC Team managed to hold off MPU FC, 2-1, with all goals scored in the second half of the game.

Results from Week 4 of the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2022 U13 and U16 boys and girls competitive division will be posted in the next editions of *Saipan Tribune.*

Late turnover, Hopkins 4th field goal gives Chargers OT win

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# Another 4 gold medals for Nickole

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Nickole Salem lets out a road after collecting three gold medals in the NAGA JiuJitsu Tournament in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina last Sept. 17.

MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jiu Jitsu practitioner Nickole Salem collected four gold medals competing in two tournaments in the U.S. mainland last month.

The 5-year-old dynamo won three gold medals in the NAGA JiuJitsu Tournament in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina last Sept. 17.

What made the feat more amazing was Salem competed in the boys division that was also 10 lbs over her usual weight division.

She also struck gold in the Newbreed Fall Championship held a week before last Sept. 10 in Savannah, Georgia.

Salem won a championship belt in the advance division against two other competitors with both victories coming via submission.

She also won second place in a higher weight division (30 lbs over her weight) against higher belts.

"She normally fights in the gray belt division at 45 lbs and below. Lately, she hasn't been getting anyone to register because it's rare, so she is forced to fight with bigger kids," said Nickole's father, Nicko, who was born and raised on Saipan.

The older Salem said her daughter dedicates the medals she won last month to all the kids, parents, and coaches in her gym that's been helping her get better everyday in the sport.

"She attributes her succes to just showing up everyday and having fun in jiu jitsu," he said.

On Nickole's experience in both events, Nicko said they were on opposite sides of the spectrum.

"Her reaction after the tournament in Savannah was a little rough because she faced much bigger kids. She cried a little, but was taught to be resilient after the fact. The second tournament in Myrtle Beach, she complete-

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## Queens of Diamonds rain down on Hot Shots

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Top team Queens of Diamonds rained on the parade of second seeded Hot Shots, 24-4, in a run-ruled game last Sunday in the continuation of the women's division of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

The Queens reigned in the first inning, with each batter taking turns in scoring and when the dust settled, 12 runs were on the board. It seemed like the game was already over as the Hot Shots only scored one run during their turn at bat.

The Queens settled down in the second inning, scoring just two runs but the damage was already done as their lead stretched to 14-1. The Hot Shots continued their snooze fest as they were only able to score three more runs in the last two innings which caused the game to end early, as the Queens had no mercy and scored 10 more runs in the last inning for the final score of 24-4.

One of the Queens' leading batters, Kiana Aldan, hit the only home run of the game. She also hit a triple and had four runs batted in. Teammate Erin Mendiola hit two triples herself, while Rachel Salalila had four RBIs in three at bats and had three runs herself.

With the win, the Queens widened their lead over everyone with their 8-1 win-loss card. The Hot Shots

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Queens of Diamonds players pose for a photo after their win against the Hot Shots last Sunday in the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the Dandan Softball Field.

## MP United Pink and Blue crush foes in U13 boys

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

MP United Football Club's Pink and Blue U13 boys teams both crushed their foes in Week 3 of the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2022 last Oct. 8 at the Northern Mariana Islands Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
MP United FC Blue goes against Matansa FC during their Oct. 8 game at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

MP United Pink won over TanHoldings FC, 6-2 to even its record at 1-1, while MP United Blue blanked Matansa FC, 2-0, to remain unbeaten at 2-0. In the U13 boys standings, the Pink team is third behind the Blue team with Kanoa FC in the lead.

### MP United Pink 6, TanHoldings 2

Eleven minutes had already ticked by when the first shot resounded from a kick made by Leonard Delemarle of MPU. TanHoldings tried to retaliate but couldn't find their

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